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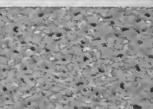




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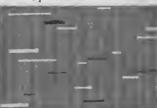
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[H. Armstrong Roberts photo

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COVER: The cattle on our cover this month are western steers, caught by photographer Ken Poste, Woodstock, Ontario, on the farm of Verne Kauffman, just outside the city.

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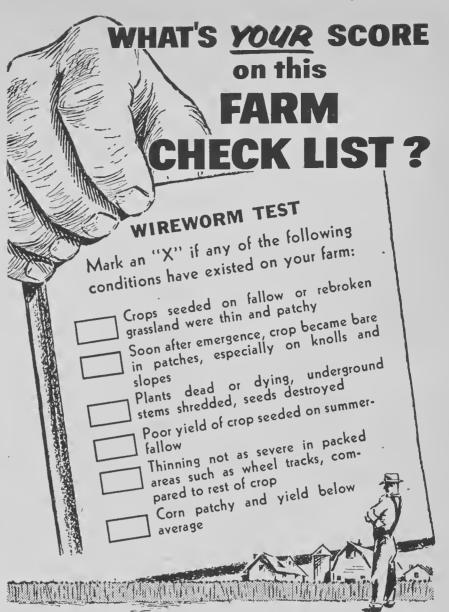
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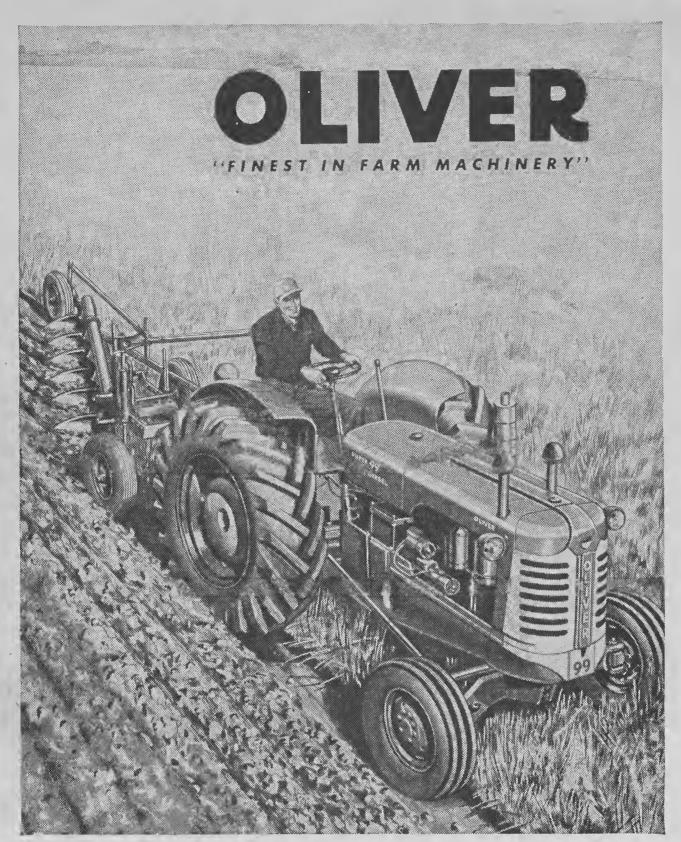
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Will It Come Again?

by MAUD STRIKE



Last year's heavy rainfall brought both hardship and hazard to the farmer. Potholes and sloughs were flooded and the photo shows a creek that has been dry for years, flooded, with the bridge washed afloat. The field behind the trees and the combine is normally a few hundred yards travel from the farmhouse. Last year's flood made it almost a mile distant, as the owner was compelled to travel this distance with his machine to harvest his crop.

The Glad Warm Wind

by ALBERT KANOGEN

H OURS before it is upon you, you know that it's coming. The small arch in the southwest grows and grows, until it stretches from horizon to horizon.

Some may not know what it means, but if you are a South Albertan, you'll know that it means a chinook.

How many times a day does the Albertan turn eyes southward in the hope of seeing the slightest signs of the arch? Even if they are unaware of it, I'll lay odds that the sky in that corner of Alberta is scanned at least twice a day by practically every man in the area.

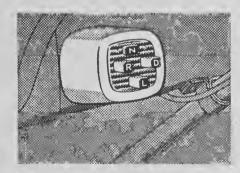
Folks who have never lived here, just can't fathom the feeling that comes to a native, when he sights the half-circle. Hopes begin to rise. "Maybe we'll have a break in this cold weather now," is the most common thought, but it doesn't sum up the real feeling that one has.

At times it creeps over the prairies: at others it comes with a great gust of wind. The results are the same in either case. Temperatures rise within minutes. You'd think that spring had arrived. Snowdrifts drop, the frosty window curtains roll down as drops of moisture; and some folks make the most of it and drive around with their car windows rolled down.

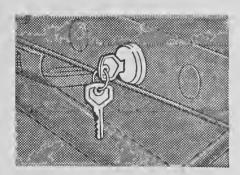
One day like this is worth ten frigid ones, but then, as all good things must end, so does the chinook. However, no one seems to mind too much. There'll be another one along. All we have to do is watch for it.



DODGE "JOB-RATED" TRUCKS

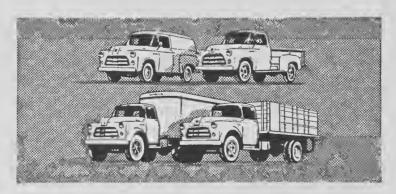


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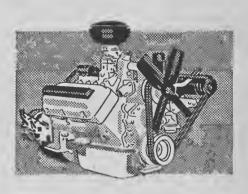
New driving ease, new convenience new V-8's and 6's to make your hauling job easier, faster, more profitable!



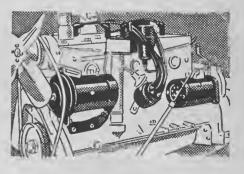
New payload capacities! Dodge brings you higher G.V.W.'s in medium- and high-tonnage models. There's a truck to fit your job in the complete Dodge line . . . from ½-ton to 65,000 lbs. G.C.W.!

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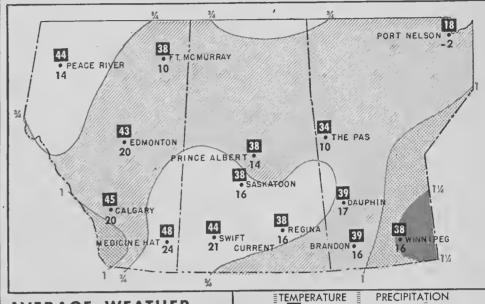
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Prairie Weather

Prepared by Dr. Irving P. Krick and Staff for



(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



AVERAGE WEATHER

March 15 - April 15

EY: TEMPERATURE Max.

PRECIPITATION
Average Inches
During Period

Alberta

Wintry weather will continue in Alberta, with only brief relief from occasional chinook winds. Temperatures will average two to six degrees below normal. Lowest readings will occur shortly after mid-March, with minima dropping to well below zero values. No appreciable warming is likely until early April, when a general thaw is in the offing. Temperatures are expected to rise into the fifties at most stations.

Opportunity to graze stock will increase materially. Tillage operations will be confined principally to the south, where planting of small grains will make a modest beginning. The warm spell will be short lived, however, with the advent of another cold outbreak about mid-April.

Snowfall will be relatively heavy, especially in the south and immediately adjacent to the mountains. Lighter amounts will be experienced in the northeast.

PRECIPITATION
30 DAYS
chead
TEMPERATURE

MARCH	20	25	30 - APRIL	5	10
SNO	W		SNOW		SNOW
	COLD			WARM	CD

Saskatchewan

Relatively cold weather will plague the province through March. Chinook winds will bring only brief periods of warming. Not until early April is a persistent spell of warm weather likely. Rapid thawing will accompany the higher temperatures, and rivers will rise sharply, inundating some low-land acreage. Colder weather about mid-month will tend to retard run-off and stream-flow. Pastures, ranges and stubble fields will be accessible to stock

on occasions. Rye fields should show considerable new growth. Tillage operations and early planting of grains will be somewhat impeded by the late thaw.

Except for the hilly country in the southwest, precipitation will be light and generally below seasonal. Few stations will record more than one inch of moisture: less than three-quarters of an inch will be more representative. Heaviest amounts are anticipated in March.

PRECIPITATION	MARCH 20	25	30 APRIL	5	10
30 DAYS	SNOW		SNOW		SNOW
ahead	COLD			WARM	CD
TEMPERATURE					

Manitoba

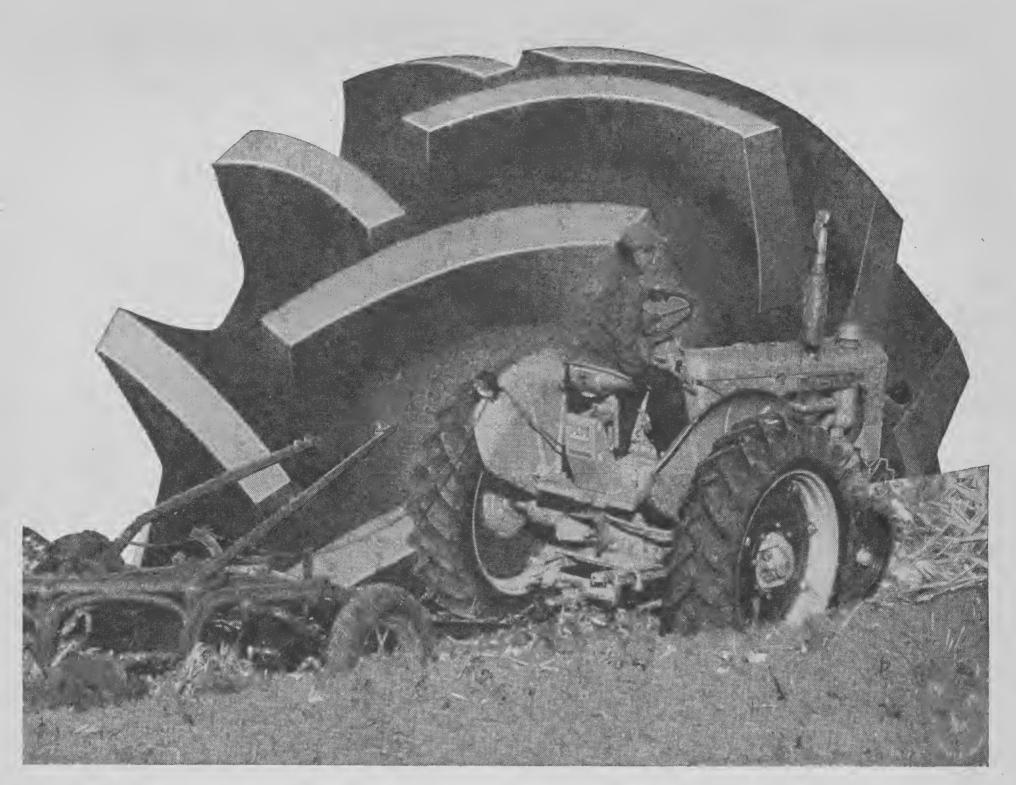
Cold weather in March will give way to considerable warming in April. The most severe outbreak of arctic air will occur shortly after mid-March, plunging temperatures to subzero levels throughout the province. Relatively cold weather will persist, until broken by a spell of mild weather beginning on or about April 5. The higher temperatures will induce appreciable thaving, resulting in a rapid rise in run-off and stream-flow. Colder

weather about mid-month will help to reduce the flood threat.

Precipitation will be light and well below normal. Many stations in the north will receive only negligible amounts. Total moisture is unlikely to exceed half-inch anywhere, except at a few isolated stations in the south. The drier and somewhat milder weather in April will facilitate turning stock into fields. Limited progress with spring tillage and seeding is anticipated in southern districts.

PRECIPITATION | MARCH | 20 | 25 | 30 | APRIL | 5 | 10 |

30 | DAYS | SNOW | SNOW | SNOW | SNOW | COLO | WARM | COLO | WARM | COLO | COLO | WARM | COLO |



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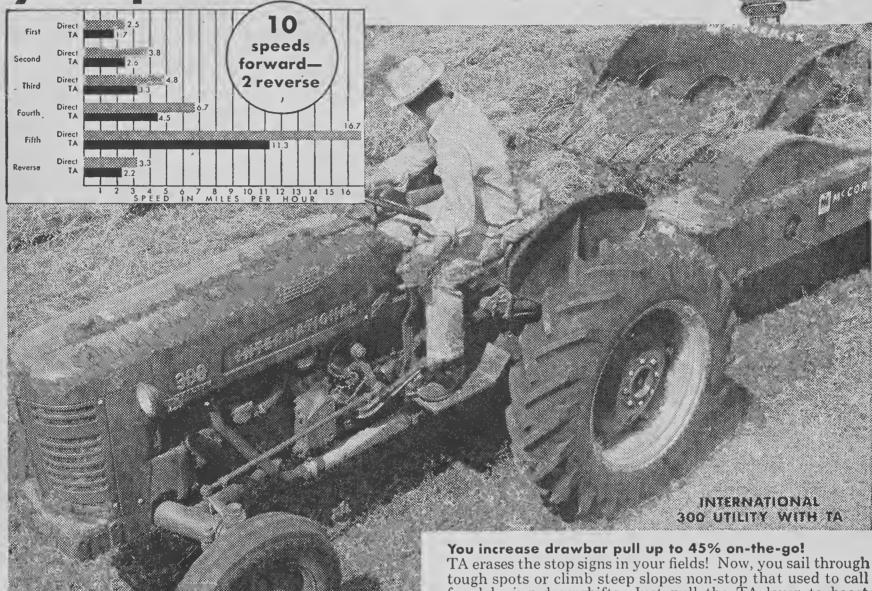
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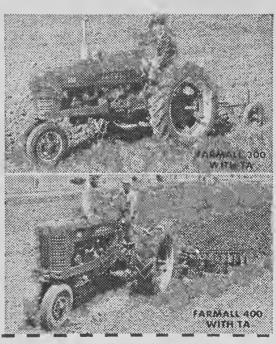
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Why the Squeeze on Farmers?

Here are the opinions of a well-known Canadian economist, who is also a farmer, and who has made a life-long study of agriculture

by E. C. HOPE

PRICES received by Canadian farmers for their products reached a post-war peak in 1951. They fell sharply in 1952 and 1953 and have continued, on the average, to drift downward—though at a gradually slackening pace—until the present time. On the basis of the five-year period 1925-29 as 100, the farm price index reached 190 in 1951, and at the present time is about 140. This represents a decline of 26 per cent from the peak of prices.

The cost of what farmers buy, on the other hand, is now a little higher than in 1951. Again on the basis of 1925-29 as 100, the index of farm costs was 172 in 1951 and is now about 178, an increase of 3.5 per cent since 1951. The 26 per cent drop in prices received, compared with a rise of 3.5 per cent in prices paid, means that the buying power per unit of farm products produced has declined, on the average, from an index of 110 in 1951 to 80 today. Again measuring from our 1925-29 base, it means that

prices, a drop of \$1,000 since 1951 is very substantial.

In view of the high level of employment and rising wages in industry in Canada, the United States, and even in other countries, it is only natural that the Canadian farmer should be at a loss to understand why his income has fallen so much over the past few years.

PRICES received by farmers for farm products are directly dependent upon the demand for, and the supply of, these products. The costs the farmer has to pay for articles and services he buys are also determined by the demand and supply of these services.

For some products produced by Canadian farmers the total supply consists not only of Canadian production, but the production of many other countries. The demand for these products necessarily includes foreign demand, as well as Canadian demand. Such a product is wheat. For some other products, only the Canadian and

Year	Australia	Canada	United States	Belgium	Netherlands	W. German
Highest }	'51-100	'48-103	'47-107	'48-118	'50-100	'49-115
951	100	100	100	100	100	100
952	66	88	94	101	98	95
953	67	80	86	91	96	96
954	64	76	80	87	96	98
955	do salvada que de das.	73	80	84	90	85

the buying power of farm products was ten per cent above normal in 1951, and today is 20 per cent below normal.

Another basis of comparison is net farm income. In 1951, the average net income per farm, from farming operations, was \$3,520. Preliminary calculations for 1955, after taking into consideration the value of the large crop of last year, shows an average of \$2,524 per farm. Even considering that 1951 was an above normal year for

United States combined supply are of importance, and only the demand of these two countries is of importance on the demand side. Generally speaking, beef falls into this class. For a few products, only the Canadian supply and Canadian demand are of importance. Occasionally eggs fall into this class, if we are not producing enough for an export surplus above domestic requirements.

Most farm products produced in Canada, however, are at different times



Better standards of farming and farm living, exemplified by this picture, have been endangered by the lower prices and buying power of farm produce.

influenced by the supply and demand for these products in overscas markets, even if we export these products only intermittently and in small quantities. There are numerous examples of such products, including evaporated milk, skim milk powder, cheese, apples and certain kinds of forage crop seeds.

It can be readily seen from the above that the price of practically every farm product in Canada is influenced considerably by price levels—or, let us say, demand and supply conditions—in the United States and world markets. Therefore, if we are to find the causes of the present position of Canadian agriculture, we must look at the situation, not only in Canada, but also in foreign lands.

During the last war the agricultural production of western Europe fell to low levels. At the end of the war it was estimated that livestock production had fallen to 30 per cent below pre-war, and food crops about 15 per cent below. In the Far East (Japan, India, Burma) production had also fallen a great deal. This shortage was made up during the war years by a great war-time expansion in agricultural production in North America. By 1946 North American production was about 35 per cent above pre-war, and the biggest share of the increase had taken place in the United States.

When the war was over, all the countries whose agriculture had declined so much, immediately started policies of expansion. These policies had many angles, such as government bonuses and subsidies to encourage farmers to expand, and a rapid and widespread program of research and extension, to bring about mechanization and new methods of production. Most of the under-developed countries were given direct technical assistance and capital grants, or loans, to expand agricultural production.

It was not long before all these efforts to expand production began to bear fruit. It has been estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (F.A.O.) that agricultural production per capita in

Western Europe had recovered to the prc-war level by 1950-51, and that it has since continued to rise above that level. Per capita agricultural production for the world as a whole reached the pre-war level a year later (1951-52), and has since continued above this level.

THE full recovery of world agriculture, and in particular that of Western Europe, brought about the end of the world-wide post-war boom in agriculture, and is primarily responsible for the fairly general world-wide decline in prices of farm products. Demand remains high in practically all countries—in fact has never been higher—but the over-all weight of increases in the per capita food supply has cracked world price levels.

International trade in farm products, which rose steadily from 1946 to 1951, has now levelled off and is not increasing. Countries which, a few years ago, needed to import large quantities of food products, are now requiring less, or, in some cases, have even become large exporters of some products. Examples of the latter are France and Turkey, which are now net exporters of wheat. This drying up of export demand from countries outside of North America has seriously affected the export trade in farm products for Canada and the United States, particularly the latter. This is because the United States was more dependent on overseas markets for a number of farm products than Canada was. Wheat is the main export product of concern to Canada.

The developments in world agriculture can be seen by reference to the accompanying table, which shows the general decline in the buying power of farm products, for a few countries for which such calculations can be made.

In this table the relative buying power of farm products in 1951 is shown as 100 and each year is compared with this base year. It will be noticed that the year of the highest post-war buying power (sometimes called the parity ratio) varies, but

(Please turn to page 76)

The Country Guide reviews experiences and opinions of agricultural scientists and livestock specialists in the use of antibiotics as feed supplements

Promoting growth of chicks, and particularly has been achieved with



[Bob Taylor photo

WONDER DRUGS on the farm

T was during the Second World War, when penicillin saved the lives and limbs of thousands of men, that the word "antibiotic" was added to everyday language. It was the result of long and complicated research, but once a satisfactory way of producing penicillin had been found, a flood of other antibiotics was released. There are now hundreds of them, and this is only the beginning of a course of scientific research which is meeting demands ranging from the relief of human suffering to new ways of preserving eggs.

The success of antibiotics has been so spectacular that they have earned the name of "wonder drugs," and the title is well deserved. But it is important to realize that they are not a cure for all ills. Nor are they a substitute for good farming, any more than blood transfusions are a substitute for highway safety.

With livestock, as with people, the wonder drugs have an established place in fighting certain diseases. In these cases the antibiotics most commonly used are the "narrow spectrum"

types, which means that they are known to have particular effects and are used only for particular diseases.

The type more familiar to farmers are the "broad spectrum" antibiotics, which are supplied in animal feeds to promote growth, increase feed efficiency, and keep the herd or flock in good health. The effect of these is much broader, as their name suggests, and it is not yet known exactly how they work. However, it is known that the broad spectrum types will attack organisms in the intestine, called intestinal flora, which compete with the host animal for the vitamins in its food. This encourages the vitaminproducing organisms in the intestine, and enables the animal to absorb more of the valuable nutrients, which means using feed more efficiently.

Because antibiotics are a relatively new factor in animal nutrition, and extensive testing over a long period is needed, there is still some difference of opinion as to how effective the drugs are. It is not yet agreed that antibiotics are beneficial, or even necessary, for all animals at every

stage of their development, although that point may be reached eventually.

NTIBIOTICS are contained in A most commercial feeds for poultry and hogs now, the most common types being aureomycin and penicillin. Mixing them with feed is left largely to the feed companies because an accurate mix is important. Several Canadian authorities believe that once animals are started on antibiotics, it is as well to keep it up, or the animals may lose what they have gained. But there are some who disagree.

Dr. L. W. McElroy, of the University of Alberta, who warns against the principle of substituting a drug for good management, points out that the whole business of feeding antibiotics shows up to best advantage on farms where management is not as good as it might be. Furthermore, in the case of hogs, he says that feeding them antibiotics right through to market weight leads to lower carcass grades, owing to excessive fat.

This point is illustrated by Dr. H. T. Fredeen, Experimental Farm, Lacombe, who says that when some unthrifty pigs were fed aureomycin, only 35 per cent made Grade A, whereas 65 to 75 per cent of those without the antibiotic were in the top grade. But he does feed antibiotics in the nursery ration until hogs reach 40 pounds in weight.

On the other hand, Dr. H. Branion Department of Nutrition, Ontario Agricultural College, says that antibiotics are needed for creep feeding young pigs, and it pays to keep them on it right through to market if the advantage is not to be lost. The same view is held by Dr. J. M. Bell, Animal Husbandry Department, University of Saskatchewan, who believes that the grade of hog depends mainly on its type. If it is a good, thrifty type,

One use claimed for antibiotics is to combat diseases in the feedlot. which it should be, the grade will not suffer through antibiotic feeding, and the weight is reached faster and with greater feed efficiency. Among other things, the antibiotic is effective in

checking scours. Naturally, says Dr. Bell, antibiotics tend to give their best results in old housing, but how long does new housing stay new? This does not imply, / however, that poor management of hogs is to be encouraged.

R. E. W. CRAMPTON, Professor of Animal Nutrition, Macdonald College, Quebec, says that a review of all the available information reveals that average gains of young pigs can be increased by 15 per cent, and feed efficiency about five per cent, due to the inclusion of one of the recognized broad spectrum antibiotics. But if fish meal is a component, there may be no response from the antibiotic.

While agreeing that antibiotics have shown favorable results when fed to young hogs and poultry, Dr. Frank Whiting, Experimental Farm, Lethbridge, wonders whether the gains are enough to cover the increased cost. Evidence to date has failed to show that it always has, he says.

Another aspect of hog feeding was reported at the first international conference on antibiotics in Washington recently. Dr. N. R. Ellis, chief of the Animal Husbandry Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, said that when a daily aureomycin ration was fed to gestating sows, there were more live pigs born in each litter, and they showed better ability to survive until weaning.

Other advantages reported at Washington were that antibiotics had helped to control diseases such as scours, reduce the number of runts, lower the amount of protein supplement needed, boost the weaning weight by five to ten pounds, and increase appetites and gains generally.

(Please turn to page 46)



Adaptable

Farm Buildings

Buildings built now are for future use, and for economy's sake must be adaptable to many purposes

by W. KALBFLEISCH

EVELOPMENTS in mechanization, and new methods of farming have made many farm buildings obsolete. When grandfather built a barn he had no idea that we would use tractors, self-propelled combines, milk coolers or electric water heaters on farms. Today we have a tremendous range of equipment for numerous farm operations. Tomorrow we will have new machines and other methods of farming. To meet present and future agricultural developments we require a type of farm building which will serve more than one purpose.

A farm structure needs to be extremely versatile and flexible to accommodate, or utilize, new methods and new machines which will be devised to improve various agricultural operations. Farm buildings normally have a life of 40 to 50 years, and many buildings now new may be in use until the year 2000. By the end of this century there will be a variety of changes, or improvements, in farming operations, and buildings should be as adaptable as possible to new developments in agricultural production.

Versatility in buildings is essential when farm enterprises change from dairy cattle to poultry, or from cash crops to beef cattle, or the reverse. Today, a building may be needed for machinery storage, and in a short time it may be used to store grain, or to house beef cattle or sheep.

Flexibility is also necessary to accommodate changes in the size of farms, or in methods of farming. More storage space is needed for the yield from an acre of hay, than from an acre of soybeans; and a combine requires less floor space than two binders and a threshing machine.

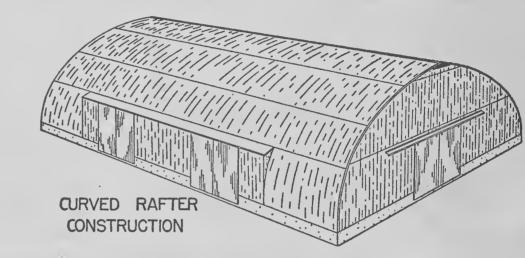
All buildings should be adaptable to the most efficient utilization of labor. Heavy stone walls make a very durable building, but they cannot be adjusted easily to save time, or walking distance, when a change is made in the use of the structure. It is also desirable to design a building adaptable to the use of new types of equipment. The broader use of electric

power will introduce many new farm methods and machines associated with farm buildings.

OPEN floor space covered by a roof, and partially enclosed by three or four walls, are essential features of a multi-purpose structure. A building consisting of a covered floor area, without permanent interior walls or divisions, can be used for virtually any purpose from the housing of dairy cattle to the manufacturing of apple boxes. In our climate, a roof must be provided to keep out snow and rain, and it can be constructed by a variety of methods as long as it serves this purpose. Walls are also needed to keep out the weather and to support the roof, but they should be adaptable or adjustable according to operational

A building used to store farm machinery only needs a large door at each end of the structure. When it is used to shelter beef cattle one of the side walls should be entirely open, or it should have several large doorways. Provision for the insulation of walls is also desirable. Many storage buildings and some livestock structures do not require warm walls, while insulation is necessary for potatoes and similar commodities.

The floor of a general-purpose barn may consist of gravel, or poured concrete. In many cases, gravel provides a satisfactory floor in buildings used for storing machinery, baled hay, lumber, fence posts and numerous other items. Poles or slabs can be laid on the floor to keep lumber or fence wire from contact with the soil. For various other purposes, a good concrete floor



POLE BARN CONSTRUCTION

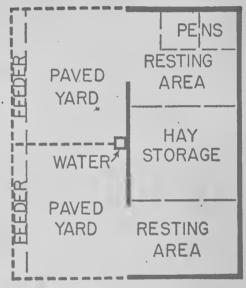
is an essential part of a service building. Depending on requirements, a gravel floor may be used initially in a building, with provision to cover it with concrete if and when a solid floor is required for some special purpose.

MULTIPLE service buildings can be constructed, or supported by curved rafters made of wood or metal, by standard roof trusses, by conventional roof framing, or by poles. The method of construction selected will depend on general building requirements and on the cost of labor and materials. All of these methods of construction have some disadvantages—there is no perfect all-purpose structure—but they have most of the requirements for a general utility building.

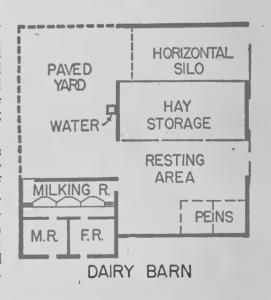
The most desirable width for a service building is 40 to 50 feet and this width provides a useful and economical structure. Standard curved rafters and standard wood or steel trusses can be fabricated for this size of building, but ordinary roof framing has span limitations.

When curved wood or metal rafters are used to construct a building, they provide a good support for the roof and form the side walls of the building. Structures of this design also provide an entirely clear floor area which is a very desirable feature for general-purpose buildings. Moreover, curved rafter buildings are very easy to con-

(Please turn to page 42)



BEEF BARN



The four plans at right show a basic design adapted to many different purposes.

AUCTION
ROOM
OR
MACHINERY
STORAGE
OR
SNOW
EQUIPMENT

GRAIN STORAGE OR TOBACCO BARN POULTRY
BUIL DING

SERVICE
ROOM

SERVICE
ROOM

LUMBER FERTILIZER
STORAGE STORAGE

MACHINERY
STORAGE

The Stick Maker

The strange little man, who though not speaking our language, found his own way of making himself known to the hearts of his neighbors



Y neighbor is one of those fellows who qualifies for the old saw about his bark being worse than his bite, and that autumn morning when I was stooking the barley next the line fence, Bert Frome was certainly barking.

"You're trespassing!" he shouted. "Go on, you blasted foreigner-get off my land right now!"

He was yelling at a brown-faced little man who had on one of those wooden-button jackets. I could hear the babble of talk that came from him, but it made no sense to me nor to Bert. You know how it is when you're talking to a person who doesn't speak your language: Bert was shouting louder all the time, as if the noise could get across the meaning of his words. The stranger didn't shout back, though. He just shrugged his shoulders, then I'm blessed if he didn't make a stiff little bow toward Bert before he turned away. When he saw me, he came through the fence instead of walking back to the road.

I had quite a time understanding what he wanted. He had a lively sort of face, wind and sun-tanned and with nice humor crinkles around the large, almond-shaped eyes. He wore a bushy moustache, which probably helped accent his foreign look. I glanced at his hands; they were the hands of a worker, strong looking and calloused. But I couldn't savvy his lingo, so he acted out what he wanted. He did this by half bending over and leaning with one hand out as though holding onto something. It took me a few minutes

to get it: he was pretending to use a walking stick.

He kept pointing at the big ravine which runs through my place and Bert Frome's. Trees and shrubs grow plentifully on the hill slopes. Finally, even though the weather was threatening and I was pushed for time, I followed the little man over to the ravine and watched him hunch down beside a straight growing stalk of saskatoon and pull a small saw from a jacket pocket. With the point of it, he scooped away the earth around the base of the tree to reveal the main root curved at right angles from the upright stalk.

"Hah!" he cried. "Ees good!"

He looked up at me, indicating with his saw that he wanted to cut the root and stalk. It was all clear to me, then -he wished to make himself a walking stick. I nodded to go ahead. Then the little man held out both hands with fingers spread, repeating the motion as he pointed at other saskatoons nearby. Apparently he wanted to collect. 20 walking sticks.

"Sure, go to it," I said, again nodding. At that, he stood up and pointed at himself.

"Chris," he said. "Chris Dolpholus." I told him my name was Sam Johnson and we shook hands before I returned to my barley field. He was busy in that ravine for over an hour, then came out to where I was working and showed me the bundle of barkpeeled sticks. There was quite an assortment of handle shapes and sizes, but they'd all make good walking sticks. Chris deposited the bundle against a stook and promptly grabbed a couple of sheaves. He looked at me: even his moustache seemed to be making a question right then. So I laughed and showed him how to build a stook.

TE caught on quickly and we n worked together until Dot clanged the dinner bell. By that time I'd learned more about Chris. He sang a lot. The words meant nothing to me, but the tunes were catchy and I hummed along with him and the work went easy. There's something likable about a cheerful man who sings while he works. I also liked his active curiosity about everything. He kept pointing and asking the name for stook, magpie, poplar tree, jack rabbit, the sky, and so on.

"Come along and have dinner," I said when the bell rang, then acted out eating so he would understand. He pointed at the house and shook his head as if he didn't want to bother my

wife, but I took his arm and led him along to the kitchen.

Dot liked him at once. It's seldom that a farm woman meets a man who sweeps his hat nearly to the ground as he bows to her. Another thing, Chris was scrupulously clean about his person and



Illustrated by J. H. Petrie

you should have seen him scrub at the basin. He waited at the table, poised and watchful, and nodded approval when we bowed our heads to say grace. He was marvellous about keeping young Jeanie amused, which endeared him to Dot and me. Our little five-year-old had no trouble understanding Chris' pantomimes.

A FTER dinner he helped again with the stooking and we finished just before the rain started. I offered him payment, but he shook his head and pointed to the sticks. Then I loaded him and his bundle into the truck and drove him to Willowdale, to the old Gonger shack on the outskirts. He'd fixed up that place real neat and tidy. The back kitchen had been converted into a workshop. Here he was making all sorts of wooden articles, things like clothes racks, wooden ladles, willow baskets of various sizes, and handmade toys. He selected a fancy doll cradle and handed it to me, speaking Jeanie's name.

I liked him so much that, on the way home when I saw Bert Frome choring at his barns, I drove in to tell him about Chris.

"A stick maker?" Bert began laughing. "Is that what he meant by bending over that way? I thought he was trying to say that his back hurt and he wanted me to give him some money."

"He's no beggar. Chris helped me stook all afternoon to repay me for letting him cut a few saskatoon trees. You were a little rough on him, Bert."

My neighbor looked apologetic for a moment, then he scowled.

"I get so darned mad at those foreigners-they're swarming all over our country right now."

We argued about it. Canada is such a large land and I claim we need more people here. Bert's roots go away back into pioneer times and he resented newcomers who couldn't talk our lan-

"Well, Chris knows at least 20 more words now," I retorted as I left. I noticed that some of Bert's barley sheaves were still on the ground. I was grateful that my own stooks were up before the storm came-thanks to the brown-faced stick maker.

Chris Dolpholus' method of earning a living was to fill a pack-basket full of his hand-made wares and carry it

from farm to farm. He didn't know much about our money values at first. Dot and I helped him work out proper prices. Before winter he came to my ravine half a dozen times and got sticks from the saskatoon thickets, and

(Please turn to *page* 55)

Grain Storage on Farms



Men working on a grain pile at the Desrosiers farm, Biggar, Sask., after another bumper crop.

[Guide photos



Snow fencing lined with building paper is used for protecting barley outdoors at Wawanesa, Man.

How prairie farmers are protecting the grain now stored on the farm

by C. V. FAULKNOR



A galvanized metal granary near Broda, Sask., is about the best method of grain storage on farms.



Oat sheaf and barbed wire granaries used near Biggar, Sask., leaving top of piles unprotected.

HE end of another bumper prairie harvest found many country elevators already glutted with yields of previous years, and farmers scratching their heads over ways and means of storing the new crop on the farm.

Travelling the three provinces, The Country Guide was impressed with the whole variety of storage methods used, which ranged from open piles left to the mercies of birds, rodents, and weather, to well-ventilated circular metal granaries. In between were many emergency structures made from materials found on any farm, and most of them were cheap to construct, yet effective in preventing grain losses.

There were emergency granaries made with snow fencing, straw bales, building paper, or oat sheaves, and some with a combination of all four. Some had walls but no roof, and others had a roof but no walls.

Many farms had grain piles covered with plastic sheeting, building paper, oat sheaves, hay, war surplus parachutes, or just left open to the vagaries of wind and snow. Others invested in permanent structures of lumber, plywood, or metal.

Farmers who leave their grain out in open piles would do well to recall emergency grain storage tests conducted at the Experimental Station, Scott, Saskatchewan, in 1953. Grain stored in a simple shelter made of snow fencing, lined and topped off with oat sheaves, suffered no loss from birds and rodents, and only a light loss from molding or sprouting at the base. But with the open, unprotected piles it was a very different story. In the case of stored oats, the loss ran as high as 20 per cent. Although the greatest loss came at the base of the piles, a good deal was caused by birds and rabbits disturbing the conical shape of the pile, so that water penetrated more easily and caused "heating" and spoilage. That way, an open pile could cost as much as a new granary.



Good cover at Denholm, Sask., combines snow fencing with out sheaves to line the walls and roof.



Straw bales and wire, with a roof of building paper, capped with tin, seen at Galahad, Alberta.



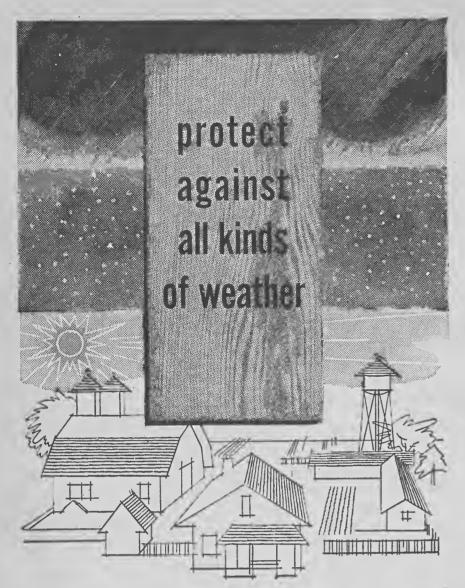
A pile at Killam, Alberta, protected only around the sides with straw bales, snow fence and wire.



Plywood and galvanized metal, two types of wall used for field granaries near Hanna, Alberta. Note that tops of grain piles have been left exposed.



These painted plywood granaries at Broda, Sask., aren't the cheapest kind of storage, but keep the grain in better condition than the open piles do.



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Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

FTER weeks of intermittent and, latterly, almost continuous debate, it looked toward the end of February as if the law of diminishing returns was beginning to operate, as far as the advocates of more help for Western wheat growers were concerned. Liberal members from other parts of the country were becoming restive. Some of them were reluctant supporters of the two-point policy in the beginning because there is an impression in these parts that the Western farmer, if not a latter-day Croesus, is very comfortably off in comparison with most farmers in the remaining seven provinces.

The fact that this feeling exists may be due to an exaggeration in debate, of the average grain grower's immediate problem, which might be presented effectively in more restrained terms.

Perhaps the trouble is that the critics of present policy have been so much concerned with pointing out the munificence of the United States government toward its own wheat producers-a situation which the present administration at Washington itself would like to see modified. They might make a greater impression upon the other sections of Canada if they were to put more stress on the fact that the Canadian wheat grower enjoys less governmental aid than any of his competitors in world markets. Other members might then be readier to consider whether the combined plan of guaranteed bank loans on farmstored grain at five per cent interest, plus the assumption by the national treasury of storage charges on elevator holdings beyond 178 million bushels, goes far enough.

As it is, the position of eastern members (on the government side, at any rate) can be summed up well enough in a speech by A. W. A. White of Waterloo South (Ontario), in mid-February, when this member said, in some irritation, that while he was quite prepared to support the bill for payment of charges on excess elevator storage he would not "subscribe to any suggestion that the rest of Canada these loans on farm-stored grain."

This seems to be a fairly representative attitude as far as Easterners in general are concerned, in spite of the fact that the Conservative party, with the bulk of its support outside the prairie provinces, decided at an early stage to criticize the government's guarantee of bank loans plan as inferior to cash advances.

THE Conservative party is certainly I doing its best to appeal to Western voters in advance of the next general election. Its stand on wheat is one example. Another is its championingno new development, except, perhaps in emphasis-of the South Saskatchewan irrigation and power project.

Mr. Drew featured the South Saskatchewan in his big pitch on February 20, when he called for federal help to any province asking for it, in the development of power resources. He compared the lack of action on that



particular scheme, with the resoluteness with which the federal government had campaigned for the St. Lawrence Seaway. Mr. Drew protected his flanks at that point. Of course, "we have all supported the St. Lawrence development," he remarked for the record. "I had occasion to support it before I came to this House.

That was an interesting political speech, and a curious one in some respects. The Conservative chieftain didn't want to leave the impression that his party was the only one urging action on the South Saskatchewan Project. He gave full marks to the C.C.F., and also to Social Credit. He radiated human kindness when, at several points in his address, he referred to the other opposition groups.

Mr. Drew even discovered that the C.C.F. were not such bad fellows after all, not nearly so dangerously socialist as he perhaps once thought. They were much more to his taste than the "slow socialists" across the way and overflowing onto the benches at his

All this sounded very much like coalition talk. If so, it represented an about-face, because at the January annual meeting here of the Progressive Conservative Association, the leader had declared most unequivocably that there would be no coalitions as long as he was around. But he made his intention plain when he began to refer should pay the interest charges on . to the anti-Liberal electors who were keeping the present government in power, "with its large and docile majority? by splitting their votes of censure every which way.

> Naturally enough, Mr. Garson, Minister of Justice, interjected that "they should all join the Tory party," and Mr. Drew cordially agreed.

> So what the Conscrvative leader was doing, in effect, was to tell the voters-particularly in the West, and to some extent in the industrial seats of Ontario-that the boys they had been voting for were fine boys, but not getting anywhere, and so they, the voters, should throw them all overboard and put the great Conservative party báck in office. A party which really combines the best elements of both those really admirable partiesthough unhappily with no national prospects—the C.C.F. and Social Credit.

> It may not be such a bad line to pursue, at that.

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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



R. K. Bennett addressing the Western Stock Growers' Jubilee Convention.

Livestock Grades Were Better Last Year

THE quality of beef cattle brought 1 to Canadian markets in 1955 was the highest of any year since the system of recording the carcass grades was started in 1948, said R. K. Bennett, chief of livestock marketing, Canada Department of Agriculture, in Alberta, recently. Addressing the Diamond Jubilee Convention of the Western Stock Growers' Association, he said that carcass gradings showed 18 per cent Grade A, 17 per cent Grade B, and 22 per cent Grade C, which was the highest for Grade A and the lowest for Grade C in the last eight years.

The downward trend in hog quality, said Mr. Bennett, was halted during 1955 and some upturn was shown, particularly in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. Grade A hogs were 27.1 per cent of the total, compared with 25.9 per cent in 1954. But there are still areas in western Canada producing more C than A. V

Nectar Going to Waste

In the first six months of 1955, Canada imported 1,225,319 pounds of honey, and exported only 125,806 pounds. Giving these figures, S. E. Bland, acting provincial apiarist, Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, says that honey producers are one farm group which is not experiencing much difficulty in marketing its product, nor is it likely to for some time.

Urging more Saskatchewan farmers to keep colonies of bees, he says that they can bolster their income from the present average of \$2,500 a year to about \$3,000. Twenty-five colonies of bees could do this on a farm, with a very small investment in time and money.

Canadians are relatively heavy consumers of honey, and there is nectar going to waste in Saskatchewan simply because there are no bees to convert it into honey.

Culling at Ontario Bull Sale

A NEW system of judging has been introduced at the Ontario Bull Sale this month. The three judges for Shorthorns, Herefords and Aberdeen-Angus were also appointed as a culling committee, and were asked to indicate

on a card the bulls which they thought would not be suitable as sires. If only one judge rejected a bull, it was eligible for sale, but two judges rejecting it prevented its sale there, and the owner could take it home. All three judges registering objections made the bull the property of the sponsoring organization, and it was sold for slaughter and the net proceeds paid to the breeder.

New Trends In Farm Machinery

THE purchase of tractors, combines, balers, forage harvesters and other types of machinery in Canada totalled \$260 million last year, compared with \$216 million in 1954, said C. G. E. Downing of the Agricultural Engineering Department, Ontario Agricultural College, recently. This was due mainly to steady buying in Ontario.

Among the advances made in farm machinery, he listed the more specific placing of fertilizer in bands at varying locations with respect to seed, both laterally and vertically, which meant more efficient use of fertilizer on growing crops. He predicted more accurate placing of fertilizer would come with the development of machines for applying liquid fertilizers.

Mr. Downing said that deep tillage will continue to have a good effect on crop yields in certain soils, including Haldimand clay, with which he had experimented. But he thought that sub-soiling had yet to be proved economical. The new, smaller and simpler shredder units for forage are giving about the same length of cut as larger models, but with much lower power requirements, and they compare very favorably with the fly-wheel type of forage harvester.

An interesting newcomer is a machine for making pelletized hay, which is still in the development stage. There are new machines for corn combining and hillside combining. The one for corn enables the farmer to harvest earlier, because corn with up to 30 per cent moisture can be picked and shelled. The hillside combine is designed to keep the threshing body level on side hills, or up and down hills with 40 per cent slope.

Livestock In the Maritimes

SPEAKING to the Meat Packers Council of Canada in Quebec, S. B. Williams, superintendent of the Experimental Farm, Nappan, N.S., said that three factors were responsible for poor livestock trends in the Maritimes. These were the comparatively small farms, great distances from manufacturing centers and feed supplies, and the mounting cost of farm labor.

He said that two tendencies at present were that in mixed farming areas there was growing emphasis on a particular product, and in specialized areas farmers were developing one or more sidelines to spread the risk.

He believed that one improvement that could be adopted would be to increase beef production by marketing cattle as $2\frac{1}{2}$ -year-olds off grass, with a minimum of grain.

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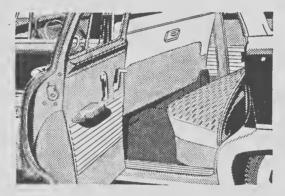
Think of power, too, not solely in terms of Plymouth's verve and vigour, but also with tomorrow's upkeep in mind. Look for built-in features like the floating oil intake and shrouded fan on Plymouth Sixes and V-8's . . . and other built-in features that mean lower repair bills and continued high power a year or so from now.

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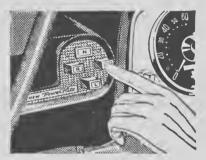
A Dozen Safety Features ...like electric windshield wipers (above), Safety-Rim wheels, safety door latches . . . are standard. Full-time power steering and power brakes are available.



Bright, Durable Upholstery in Plymouth interiors is colour-blended with the exterior finish, is long-wearing, easily cleaned, and fade resistant.

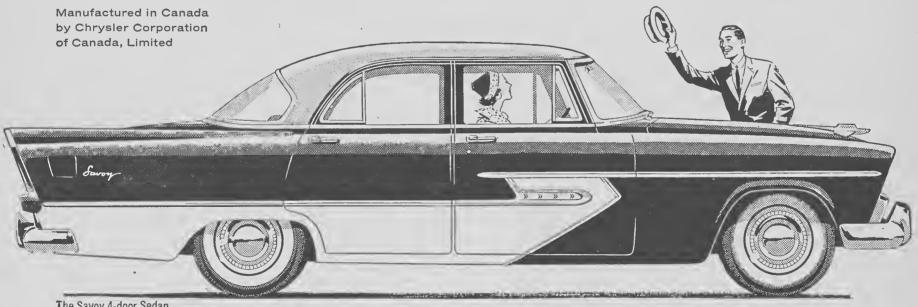


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The Savoy 4-door Sedan

FORWARD

Get It At a Glance

Interesting developments in agriculture gathered from the provinces and the world

Cold storage stocks of beef, veal, pork and lamb in Canada at the beginning of this year totalled 41,396,000 pounds. This was 20 per cent higher than they were on January 1, 1955. V

South Africa, traditionally a wheat importer, is encouraging corn farmers to divert some of their acreage to wheat, owing to a big corn surplus. This might increase this year's wheat crop 20 per cent above last year's. V

An axe handle made of fiberglass reinforced plastic, which is virtually unbreakable, has been developed by the Canadian Department of National Defence for the Army to use in the Arctic. It is now available on the general market.

Grasshopper infestations in southern Alberta are expected to be light this year. But the provincial government has large stocks of spray and dust insecticides ready in case they are needed this spring.

Turkey growers in the United States intend to increase turkey numbers by six per cent this year, owing to higher prices in 1955 and a better feed-price relationship.

Canadian chicks hatched in registered hatcheries in 1955 reached a record total of 82,156,000. A big increase in hatchings for meat in the last six months accounted for much of the 3.5 per cent rise over 1954.

Quebec farmers obtain more than 75 per cent of their annual income from animal production, valued at \$340 million, according to P. Labrecque, Quebec Department of Agriculture. This is 16 per cent of the Canadian total.

The Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture has published a list of thousands of horticultural terms in Dutch, English, French, German, Danish, Swedish and Spanish. The book is said to be obtainable through book stores in Canada.

Cattalo crosses between cattle and buffalo at the Manyberries Range Experiment Station, Alberta, have produced a fertile cattalo bull with one-eighth buffalo breeding. Cattalo with one-quarter to one-half buffalo breeding are extremely hardy in cold weather, but their sterility problem has yet to be overcome.

Milk nutrition can be used by those who want to reduce weight as well as gain it, according to the Dairy Branch, Manitoba Department of Agriculture. Low-fat sweet milk or buttermilk taken shortly before meals will help people to lose weight, while still providing the necessary food values for adults.

Farmers in Iceland will get 14 per cent more for their farm products this year. The new prices were agreed between representatives of farmers and consumers following higher wages awarded to town laborers and industrial workers last year.

Reindeer herds along the Canadian Arctic coast, east of the Mackenzie River, now number about 6,500, compared with 7,500 a year ago.

John Drysdale, of Vegreville, Alberta, shipped 66.6 per cent Grade A hogs in 1955, and won the local cooperative swine quality competition. The average for the 80 local shippers was 31.8 per cent, and the provincial average is 19 per cent.

Stilbestrol tests, conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture, have shown that stilbestrol can save feed used by beef cattle, but it does not shorten the time needed to give steers market finish.

Creamery butter production in Canada, totalling 318 million pounds for 1955, was up two per cent from 1954. But increased domestic consumption, which was 8.9 million pounds more than in 1954, narrowed the gap between production and consumption by 3.5 million pounds.

Resistance to race 15B rust may have been transferred from tall wheat-grass to common wheat, according to Prof. D. R. Knott, University of Sas-katchewan. A rust-resistant wheat-wheatgrass hybrid was crossed to Thatcher wheat by irradiation, and the result carried one chromosome from the wheatgrass.

U.S. farmers borrowed \$1,400,000,000 from 498 production credit associations for their farm operations in 1955, which set a new record. They obtained 61,000 farm mortgage loans, totalling \$487,000,000 through 1,100 national farm loan associations in the same period.

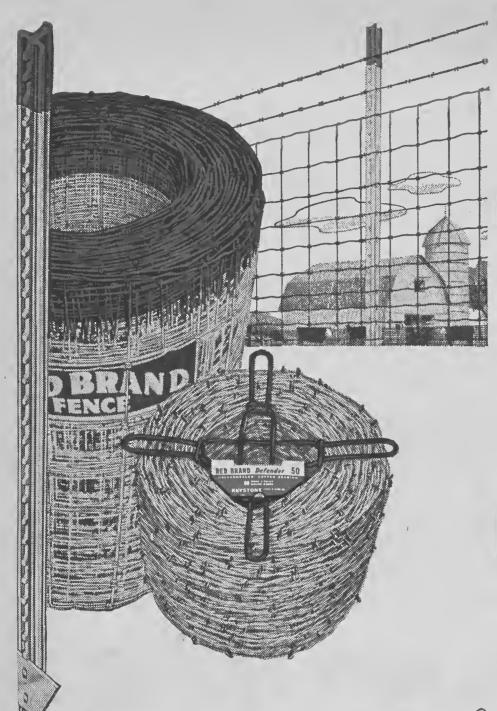
The Experimental Farm at Fredcricton, N.B., has qualified for the Master Breeder shield awarded by the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada. The Holstein herd has been in existence for 40 years.

The Ontario Agricultural College estimates that on Ontario mixed livestock farms the capital should be distributed as follows: Land and buildings 50 per cent, livestock 30 per cent, machinery (depreciated) 12 per cent, feeds and supplies eight per cent. V

U.K. bacon imports for 1956 are estimated at 600 million pounds, or 17 million pounds less than last year. The Commonwealth is expected to supply about ten million pounds, compared with 440 million pounds from Denmark.

A survey in Alberta among 212 farmers, who had planted trees, showed that 82 per cent were sure that their crop returns were greater because of shelterbelts, and 56 per cent reported less water erosion.

Payment for registered or certified seed with a delivery of up to 400 bushels over the quota will be continued up to June 30, according to the Canadian Wheat Board. Grain can go in payment or part payment for up to 150 bushels of seed wheat, oats, barley, rye, flax, or any combination of these, for seeding on the farm.



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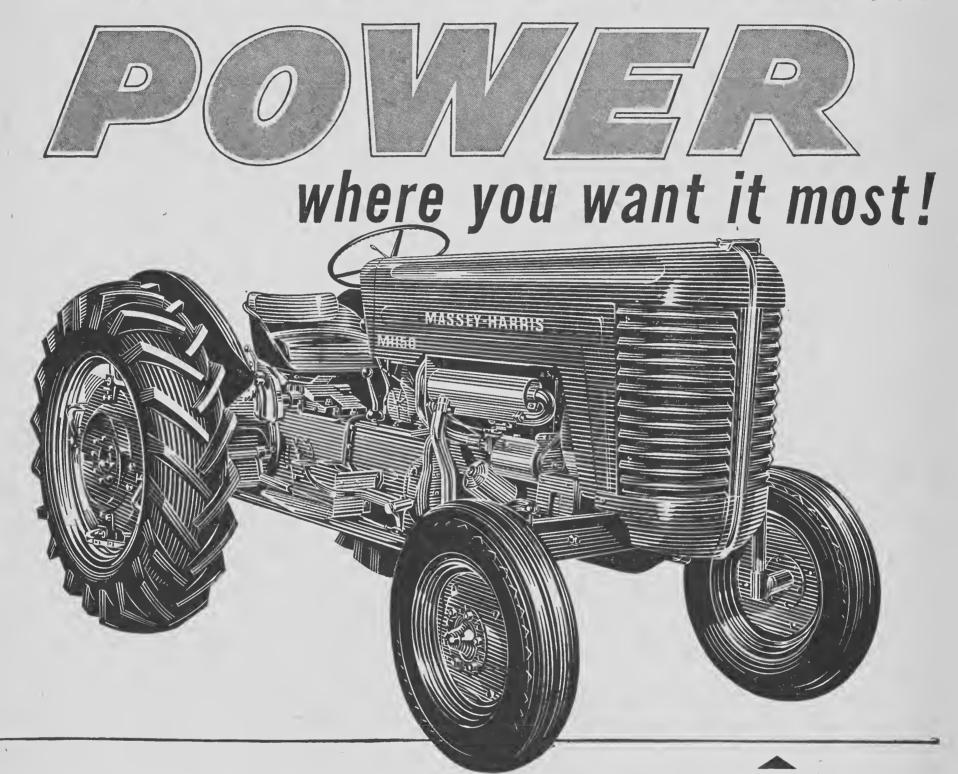
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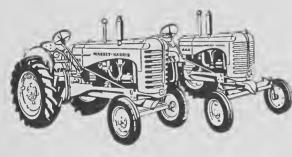
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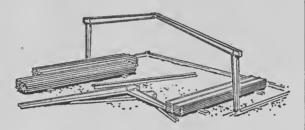
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The supreme champion at the recent Aberdeen-Angus Bull Show in Scotland, Black Baron of Barnolby, bought for 16,000 guineas by L. L. O'Brien, U.S.A.

Sheep Help Farm Economy

ENOUGH feed is wasted on Sas-katchewan farms each year to support 20 or 30 sheep, according to Thomas Orr, livestock representative, Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Sheep not only turn waste into saleable products, but do more to maintain and restore soil fertility than any other farm animal. Their manure is distributed evenly over the ground, and contains more fertilizer constituents than that of other livestock kept in the province.

Farmers looking for a way to supplement a straight grain income should consider raising a few head of sheep, says Orr, especially where there is some sub-marginal land. Available pasture land would allow them to increase the size of the flock later, and to increase their profits. Labor is no obstacle, because sheep, when properly managed on a small farm, need less attention than most livestock.

Sheep readily eat 90 per cent of Canadian weeds, and chew the weed seeds so well that few pass through the digestive tract and germinate. In fact there is a lot to be said for having a few sheep on many farms.

Beef Cattle Performance Testing

MILK and butterfat yields are the index by which dairy cattle performance tests are measured. In other words, it is their productivity that counts. The same applies to beef cattle, with the difference that cows are judged by the weight and condition of their calves at weaning. The importance of the cow needs to be stressed, because it is not uncommon for calves, of the same sex and sired by the same bull, but out of different cows, to differ by 60 to 75 pounds at weaning. At 18 cents a pound, the difference can run into a lot of money, and it pays to replace the poor producers with heifers from the better cows in the herd. This is assuming that the bull is satisfactory.

Rate of gain and the ability to convert feed economically can be inherited. Therefore, these character-

istics, observed in the cow, will usually indicate the type of offspring she will have, and performance tests on the calves will enable you to keep lowproducing characteristics out of the breeding herd.

In the winter of 1954-55, 39 Shorthorn calves, including the progeny of four sires, were tested on a similar ration from two weeks after weaning to 800 pounds for bull calves, and 700 pounds for heifers. All were raised at the Brandon Experimental Farm or the Melita Substation, Manitoba. The bull calves averaged daily gains from 1.83 to 2.02 pounds, and it was possible to make selections on the basis of an expected daily gain of two pounds, after feed per pound of gain, ranging from 5.84 to 7.09 pounds, was taken into account. A similar selection, using a lower expected rate of gain, was possible with the heifers.

Provided that careful records are kept, and that calves are given the same ration, it is clearly practical to check the performances of sire, cow and progeny. Selection of breeding stock on the basis of this information is an important step toward improvement of the herd.

Making Feed Last Through Winter

THE long and severe winter faces the livestock man with the dilemma of conserving feed and keeping his livestock in good condition. At this late stage of the season, with critical shortages in several areas, it may be too late to change the situation significantly, but there are ways which can make the difference between having just enough to keep going until spring, and having to go to the expense of buying more feed.

Make sure that you are not wasting any fodder through carelessness, advises Robert L. Pharis, supervisor of crop improvement for the Alberta Department of Agriculture. Strict use of feed racks helps to reduce wastage, but if you haven't enough racks to feed all your livestock, you can get free plans for building them from your local agricultural representative, or district agriculturist, and can start work on them now. This will not help much this winter, unless you can put

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the right amount each day to keep disease away!"

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Give your pigs better health in 1956 — and yourself greater dollar returns! Make sure that your pigs get, in their rations, the right amount of the right antibiotic: AUREOMYCIN Chlortetracycline.

Remember – it is DISEASE PREVENTION that leads to better health and better growth in hogs. And AUREOMYCIN is the world's greatest disease fighter. It has long been the *preferred* antibiotic for hogs.

Your pigs need the most protection when they are young

because they must be able to cope with many stresses and diseases. Give them *plenty* of AUREOMYCIN! After weaning, your pigs still have disease problems and need ample AUREOMYCIN to keep on gaining fast. Your finishing hogs need smaller amounts of AUREOMYCIN to maintain weight gains all the way to market.

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Talk to your feed manufacturer or feed mixer. He can supply you with complete feeds or supplements containing the *right* amount of AUREOMYCIN. *Reg. U.S. Trade-Mark



"Careful now, 'arry, don't 'urt 'er!"

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LIVESTOCK

some racks together in a hurry, but at least you will be prepared for feeding next winter.

Supplementing good quality hay with straw or poor quality fodder each day will help you to stretch out your dwindling supplies of feed. Grain should also be used to supplement the feed, not only to help out, but also as a source of more concentrated feed to help your animals to keep up their body temperatures in cold weather.

Above all, if you have been faced with a feed shortage this winter, plan now to increase your stocks for future winters, and to use them more efficiently.

More Beef Per Acre Trials

To demonstrate what can be done by renovating pastures for beef production, the Ontario Beef Pasture Committee was formed five years ago, and selected five farms in the beef-producing areas of the province for the demonstration. Each farm was divided and fenced into three equal areas—one as a check, the second fertilized, and the third cultivated and re-sown to permanent pasture mixture with fertilizer. All the farms had been in old sod for many years.

At the end of the five years it was found that reviving worn-out pasture with fertilizer alone was like "trying to fatten a poorly bred steer. But breaking and re-seeding to new grasses was like using a good purebred sire in a

herd."

The fertilized areas increased carrying capacity to nearly double that of the check plots. Ground covering increased and weeds decreased, but there was not enough pasture to warrant the expense of the fertilizer. Breaking and re-seeding gave increased carrying capacity per acre, new grasses established themselves and weed infestation was curtailed. The reserve value of what is left has not been estimated, but there are now good stands of pasture grasses on the reseeded areas, capable of carrying on for another five years with the addition of fertilizer.

The committee considers that to give profitable returns to farmers, pastures should yield at least 250 pounds of beef per season, or a beast per acre. They are convinced that more rejuvenated pastures are needed now, and are continuing their experiment for another five years to collect more data.

Potatoes In Feed Ration

BEEF cattle can use up cull and surplus potatoes without raising any serious feeding problems. As a result of feeding trials with 120 steers at the Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston, Minn., it was found that daily gains and market finish were good on a ration of oat straw, potatoes and grain. A small amount of protein supplement or grain added to the straw and potatoes increased the margin of profit over feed cost, but green alfalfa hay seemed to have no great value in this ration.

There were no serious difficulties when potatoes were fed whole and

fresh, but a plank was fixed two feet above the feeding trough to force the steers to keep their heads down while feeding to avoid choking.

A test with six steers fed potatoes on pasture showed that they gained nine-tenths of a pound more per day during one summer, compared with six other steers not fed potatoes.

Cattle Have Strange Appetites

AFTER cattle had broken through a fence around an oil well, one of them was found to have eight ounces of crude oil for every quart of its stomach contents. The oil interfered with absorption of food and destroyed bacteria in the rumen that aided digestion, with the result that the cow lost about 300 pounds in two weeks and had to be destroyed.

Dr. J. G. O'Donoghue, extension veterinarian with the Alberta Department of Agriculture, who has been studying the effects on cattle of poisoning at oil well sites, says that lead, crude oil and certain components of drilling mud are toxic, but lead poisoning is the most significant. Well sites are a potential hazard to livestock and should be guarded with good fences.

But lead poisoning is not confined to oil fields. A few cattle die every year from eating paint or old battery plates on farms. If cattle are given sufficient salt and minerals, they will not have an appetite for such things, but it is as well to be sure by discarding these materials where livestock cannot get at them. Dr. O'Donoghue has found that oil drilling crews are co-operating well in disposing of harmful refuse.

Ringworm Cut Feedlot Gains

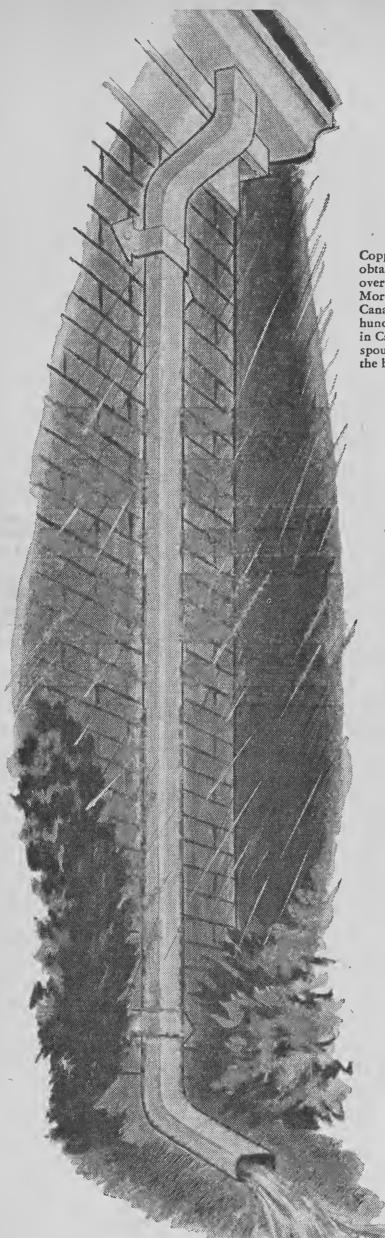
RINGWORM, a fungus which sets up an irritation on the skin surface and at the roots of the hair of cattle, usually appears after they have been in close confinement for a long period, as many will have been this winter. Losses from ringworm are likely to be small, but the skin irritation makes animals restless and they don't make such profitable gains in the feedlot. It is also a disadvantage when showing animals, because ringworm leaves unsightly patches of naked skin on animals recently infected.

An effective way to control it, according to W. Erle Roger, livestock specialist, Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, is to apply crankcase oil or a sulphur-lard paste liberally to the affected parts. Scraping off crusty lesions and applying tincture of iodine will also help, but if ordinary treatment does little or no good, you should consult a veterinarian.

Animals often pick up the infection from housing contaminated in the previous winter. They rub on barns and partitions and become carriers of the disease. Roger recommends disinfecting corrals and barns with whitewash or lye water to kill the infection. Summer sunshine will help to control the disease, but it is not enough.

Stockmen would be well advised to wash their hands thoroughly, and disinfect them if possible after treating cattle for ringworm, which is readily transmitted to humans.

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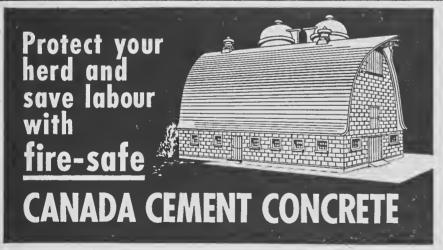
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This false ragweed grew to eight feet in the yard of George Kress, Kendal, Saskatchewan. The weed is controlled by pulling plants or cutting down in July.

Seed and Feed From Grass and Legumes

Careful choice of varieties and mixtures will give better yields

F you want grass that does not need I much attention, or is not intended for seed production for more than three or four years, the Experimental Farm, Swift Current, Sask., recommends Fairway or Summit crested wheatgrass, or intermediate wheatgrass. Sown in rows 18 inches apart, these will give a satisfactory seed crop for two or three years, and can then be used for pasture.

For more permanent seed production, Summit wheatgrass is preferable, and should be grown in rows three feet apart, with inter-row cultivation and heavy applications of 100 to 200 pounds of commercial fertilizer per acre. Russian wild ryegrass is also suitable for this area, but it needs better management than the others, and should be cultivated and given plenty of nitrogenous fertilizer immediately after the seed harvest, if good seed yields are to be maintained. The higher price for Russian wild tyegrass compensates for the extra care it needs.

Pasture research with sheep, started on grey wooded soil in the Peace River area in 1952, has shown that unfertilized creeping red fescue has produced an average of 79 pounds of lamb per acre on the basis of three seasons' grazing. When alfalfa was added to the fescue, the production was 163 pounds of lamb per acre. Brome and alfalfa were the best mixture, producing 183 pounds of lamb. These tests are reported by C. H. Anderson of the Beaverlodge Experimental Farm, Alberta.

Legumes in mixtures greatly increase the dry matter yield and quality of forage, and the grasses in the mixture benefit from the legume. The Experimental Farm, Saanichton, B.C., recommends a mixture of Rhizoma alfalfa and orchard grass for that area, at 15 pounds of alfalfa to five pounds of grass per acre, especially for long-term leas or where the hay crop is to be left down for more than three years.

Red clover is the most widely used legume around Saanichton, but this is a biennial, giving its major yield in the first and second years, so it is best for short rotations of two or three years. In wet areas the recommended mixture is six pounds of orchard grass, six pounds of perennial ryegrass, six pounds of red clover, and four pounds of alsike clover per acre.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon, Man., favors forage mixtures because they produce greater yields than single crops, add variety to livestock rations, and provide green and palatable forage over a longer period, because some species start earlier than others.

Hay tests at Brandon during the past two years showed that mixtures produced 78 per cent more than single crops. But in pasture tests, mixtures outyielded single crops by 200 per cent. The legume in the mixture raises the yield by increasing the nitrogen in the soil, and also obtains plant nutrients and water from greater depths, using a soil layer which is relatively untouched by the grasses.

In Ontario, simple hay and pasture mixtures are gaining in popularity because they allow more flexibility and diversity in the forage program. But it is important that the seed should be good, otherwise the failure of alfalfa in a mixture, for example, would remove the value of mixing entirely.

Dr. W. E. Tossell of the Ontario Agricultural College, said recently that the best insurance against failure is to use the variety known to be adapted to the area. Vernal alfalfa, Climax and Medon timothy, Empire birdsfoot trefoil and certified Ladino are known to be suitable, and some brome and orchard varieties are being tested in the hope of selecting a suitable variety from each.

The second way to insure against failure is by using pedigreed seed. It is the only sure way of knowing that a seed purchased by variety will show the characteristics of that variety. Re-



Tractor Easy Loading

Heavy material handling jobs become light work when your CA, WD or WD-45 Tractor is equipped with a quick-change, hydraulically-operated Allis-Chalmers loader.

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CA Tractor loader lifts 8 feet high, handles ¾ ton.

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FIELD

sults are also more uniform with pedigreed seed of similar grade than with different lots of unpedigreed seed. V

Be Thorough With Seed Treatments

V/HEN treating seed on the farm with a seed grain duster, keep the grain and the chemical spaced out evenly over the entire length of the proportioning trough, or the mixing will be incomplete, says Dr. S. G. Fushtey of Ontario Agricultural Col-

The rotary oil-drum treater is a more efficient mixer because it can be regulated. It also has the advantage of being adaptable to dry dust, wettable dust used as a paste, or liquid chemical. For the dust or slurry treatment the drum should be rotated 20 or 30 times for each batch, but liquids need at least twice the number of rotations.

There is still a place for the old sprinkler and shovel method, but for oat seed only, because it damages other grains. Mix a pint of formalin with about 10 gallons of water, and sprinkle it uniformly over 50 bushels of seed while it is being shovelled from one pile to another. Once the grain is uniformly moist, cover it with canvas or bags which have been disinfected with the solution, and leave it covered at least four hours or overnight. Instead of sprinkling the seed, you can mix a pint of formalin with a pint of water and spray it on with a hand sprayer while the seed is being shovelled. In either case, don't leave the grain stored longer than overnight, or it may be seriously damaged.

Whether the seed is treated on the farm, or if you prefer to have it treated at a cleaning plant, grain treated with an organic mercurial should be stored for at least four days before sowing, and preferably a week or more for oats and barley, says Dr. Fushtey. V

Ice Crust Can Kill Forage

REEZING rains, which have caused icing this winter, may damage forage crops in some areas. Alfalfa and sweet clover are particularly liable to damage by ice sheets, and may kill out, says R. J. Milligan, irrigation crop specialist, Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture.

Farmers and ranchers who have alfalfa or sweet clover crops, or mixtures containing these crops, would do well to check their fields. If an ice crust is found, break it up if possible.

On rolling land, an ordinary drag harrow will do the job in most cases, but if there is a heavy layer of ice and the land is fairly level, a disk tiller is best.

More Money From Potato Crop

TREMENDOUS increases in potato yields, and substantial increases in profit, have been demonstrated by tests over the past three years at the Fort William Illustration Station, Ontario. On a sandy loam soil, it was found that yields of marketable potatoes increased with each additional

application of fertilizer, from an average yield of 260 bushels per acre with no fertilizer to 469 bushels with 2,300 pounds of fertilizer per acre. The difference in yield was evident whether or not manure was applied.

On the basis of \$1.50 per bushel received by Fort William potato growers for their crop in 1954, with 2-16-6 fertilizer costing \$70 a ton, the extra revenue from applying 2,300 pounds of fertilizer per acre is \$230 per acre, allowing for the cost of the fertilizer. Potato prices would have to fall below 50 cents a bushel before the increased yields would not be enough to cover the cost of the fertilizer.

Check Tractor Before the Spring

TF tractors have not been used during I the winter, now is the time to see that they are in good working order, and especially to check over faults that showed last fall.

Practically every tractor manufacturer recommends an annual change of gear lubricant in the transmission and final drive, according to S. L. Vogel, assistant agricultural engineer, North Dakota Extension Service. It costs only a few dollars to change the gear oil and flush out the gear case, and it is a cheap insurance for the expensive gears and bearings at the rear end of the tractor. Gear lubricants get contaminated with dust, moisture, and particles of metal from the working parts, and if used for long periods, form a grinding compound instead of a lubricant.

Other chores worth doing are to repack the front wheel bearings, and to take off the air cleaner and wash it in cleaning fluid.

Soybeans Need Careful Handling

COYBEANS are recommended as a orop for the southern part of the Red River Valley in Manitoba, and for trial on a small scale in other parts of the province. This is an attractive crop because local markets exist, but soybeans are poor weed fighters. For careful weed control, harrowing two or three times across the rows is recommended, when the plants are two to six inches high. The surface of the field should be kept level, because ridges make harvesting difficult and the low pods are lost.

At the Experimental Farm, Morden, three varieties have been tested in the past four years on hand-weeded plots grown on summerfallow. Acme yielded 22.1 bushels per acre and took 105 days to mature; Kabott, 26.7 bushels in 111 days; Flambeau, 28.1 bushels in 116 days. The highest yield in trials under farm conditions was 15 bushels per acre on land which had grown a cereal crop in the previous year, compared with a general average of eight to ten bushels. Although better yields can be expected on summerfallow, growing any row crop on summerfallow is not good for soil conserva-

Inoculation on the day of planting with legume bacteria increases soybean vields.

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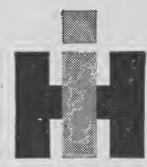


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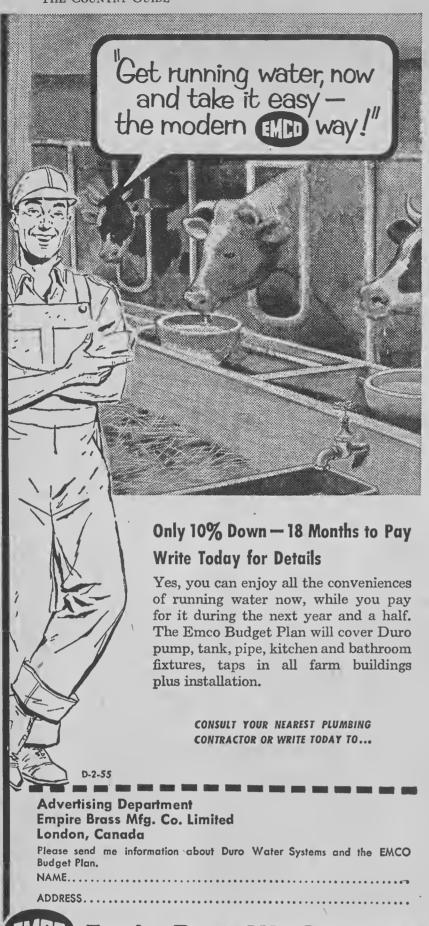


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HORTICULTURE

House Plant Diseases and Insects

THE atmosphere in most houses is quite dry. This is fortunate to some extent, since it lessens the likelihood of fungus or bacterial diseases. Consequently, for such diseases about all that need to be done is to remove infected leaves or flowers.

The situation is quite different, however, with respect to insects, which thrive under relatively dry conditions. Aphids (plant lice) and mealy bugs, which look like tiny bits of cotton, can be controlled by using nicotine sulphate, best known in commercial form as Black Leaf 40. If the plant is sprayed with, or immersed in, a solution of a quarter-teaspoonful of Black Leaf 40, a quarter-ounce of soap, in a quart of warm water, these insects can be controlled.

Sometimes scale insects attack palms or other broad-leaved plants. The best way to control these is to scrub the leaves and stems with an old toothbrush, using a solution of soap and water, but the plants should be sprayed with clean water after the scrubbing.

If found on other kinds of house plants, this scale can be cured while young, if the plants are sprayed three to five times a week with derris.

The red spider, a very small mite with eight legs, is common around house plants and causes blotching of the leaves, with pale yellow or reddish brown spots. The leaves gradually dry and drop off. Syringing the plants with water of some force will hold the spider in check, but Malathion, applied according to directions on the package is effective.

Practically all insecticides are poisonous, warns P. D. McCalla, supervisor of Horticulture for Alberta. Consequently, they should be kept out of the reach of children, clearly labelled, and handled with extreme care.

Fruit Size from King and Side Blooms

LATE spring frosts almost every year cause some damage to unopened fruit buds in some part or parts of Canada. Very often, the center or king blossom in the flower cluster is most heavily damaged, and side blooms often survive without injury.

Many people believe that the fruit developing from the king bloom is larger than from the side blooms and that this kind of frost damage, therefore, injures both the quality and the volume of the crop.

At the Summerland Experimental Station in the Okanagan Valley, the relative sizes of McIntosh fruits from the king and side blooms have been compared in a number of seasons. Trees were used which had suffered no blossom damage from frost. On several different trees, twin limbs from a main branch were used, the king blooms being removed from one branch and the other used as a check. At harvest, McIntosh, Delicious, Newtown, and Rome Beauty, when tested in this way, indicated that fruit size is not affected by the position of the apple on the spur.



This freak potato looks a bit like an old prairie gopher with the numps.

Dry Land Gardens

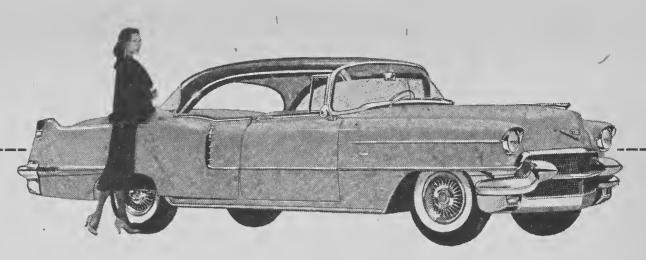
A N excellent little bulletin is available for gardeners in the drier parts of the prairie provinces. It is written by Dr. Charles Walkof of the Morden Experimental Station, and is obtainable from any experimental station, or the office of your local agricultural representative.

Moisture conservation is always a basic problem in dry-land gardening, but "failures," says Dr. Walkof, "are often the result of a lack of soil moisture conservation, or adequate plant protection, and poor weed control." Much moisture can be conserved by trapping snow with hedges, shelter belts, corn and sunflower stocks left standing in the fall, or by diking the sides and lower end of the garden spot with a ridge of 10 to 12 inches of soil to hold water from the melted snow and spring run-off, until the frost comes out of the soil.

Higher yields and better quality vegetables are produced on summerfallow than on land cropped continuously, Dr. Walkof writes. This means about an acre of land set aside for the garden, of which one-half is cropped each year. When well tended and when conditions are favorable, Dr. Walkof contends, a half-acre "will produce more food for human use than the same area planted to any other kind of crop."

The eight pages of good, practical garden information contained in this small publication are well worth having. Why not write for a copy while you think of it,—then keep it handy? V

A bright-colored, opalescent apple juice carrying the flavor of the raw apple has been on the market in western Canada since 1950, with increasingly satisfactory results to the British Columbia fruit growers who produce it. It was evolved in the Fruit Processing Laboratory at Summerland in the Okanagan Valley, after efforts, to improve the color and flavor of clarified apple juice to the desired extent had failed. After the apples are crushed and pressed, the juice is dcaerated, pasteurized, canned and cooled within 25 minutes. It is fortified with ascorbic acid (vitamin C), which, together with its resemblance to grapefruit juice in appearance and color, puts it in direct competition with citrus juices.



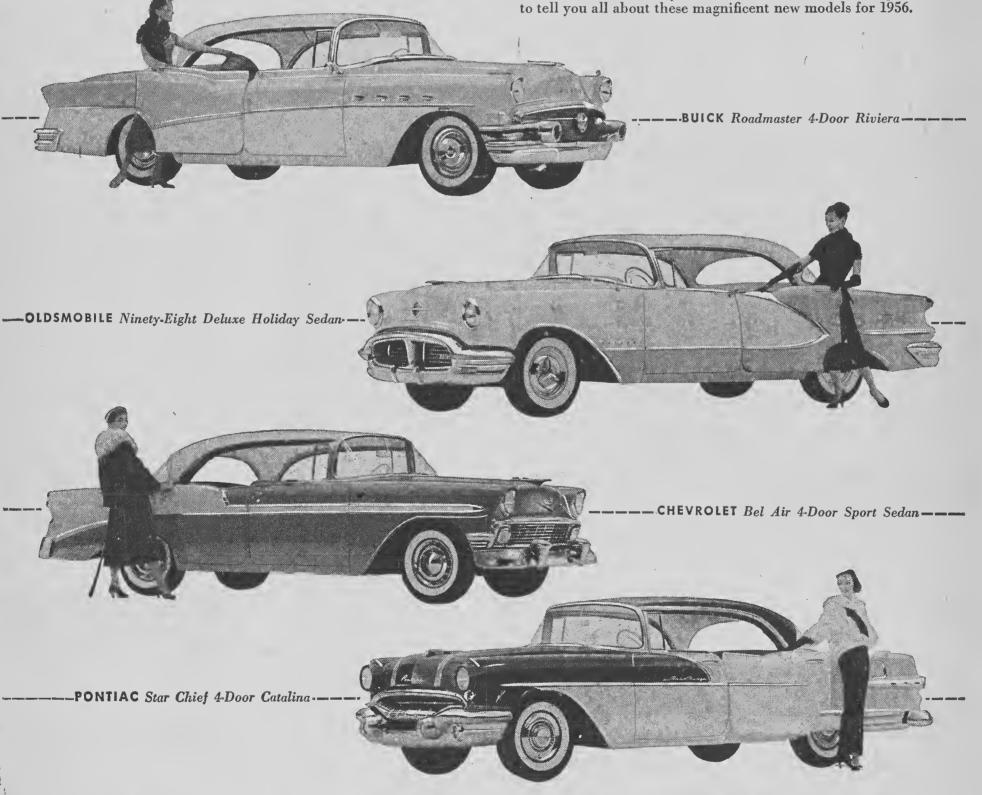
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POULTRY



A pair of floodlights attached to the base of a discarded oscillating fan swings back and forth to discourage marauders on this Florida turkey farm.

Costly Feed Wastage

CCORDING to records at the A Nappan, Nova Scotia, Experimental Farm, chickens wasted 29 per cent of their feed when hoppers were filled to the brim, but only two per cent when they were filled to the halfway mark. Grain wastage may also be reduced by feeding it on top of mash in the hoppers, or better still, in separate hoppers. The size and design of the hoppers is important. Birds fed from a hopper five inches deep and six inches wide wasted only a third as much feed as those fed from a hopper three inches deep by four inches wide. Having hoppers big enough and deep enough so they don't have to be crammed full of feed, pays big dividends by cutting wastage, and therefore feed costs.

Brooding By Electricity

A'N electric brooder for chicks, using a soil cable embedded in the concrete floor, has been used at the Experimental Farm, Fredericton, N.B., for a number of years. It is a convenient and satisfactory method, but the cost is likely to be high if the entire floor area is heated. Electricity for one hatch has varied between 4 k.w.h. per square foot of floor in midsummer to 11 k.w.h. in midwinter.

Commercial broiler growers usually allow a square foot of floor space per chick, but with the Fredericton method it would be necessary to brood two or more chicks per square foot during the first two or three weeks, if costs are to be kept within reasonable limits. After the initial period, chicks don't need so much heat, but more floor space.

Infra-red heat lamps are also giving good results at Fredericton. These use one k.w.h. of electricity per square foot for midsummer brooding, and up to 6.7 k.w.h. in midwinter.

There is a fire hazard with heat lamps. Tests at Pennsylvania State College, using a 250-watt lamp, showed that straw litter was ignited when the lamp was only one inch away, it charred at three inches, and scorched at six. It is recommended that 250-watt lamps should not be placed closer than 12 inches from litter, with

additional clearance where chickens tend to work the litter into piles. The distance should be increased for larger lamps.

Can You House **Your Turkey Poults?**

W/HEN ordering turkey poults for spring delivery, make sure you have enough room for them. You might need to keep them in the brooder house for anything up to eight weeks if the weather is bad, and each poult should have at least one square foot of floor space. Poults ordered for late spring and early summer will probably be able to run out of doors when they are three or four weeks old, and they will only need three-quarters of a square foot of space each.

Overcrowding the brooder house is one reason why it is often difficult to keep the litter dry after the birds are four or five weeks old, according to the Experimental Farm, Swift Current, Sask.

Infra-red brooders are not recommended by Swift Current for early cold weather brooding, but they are useful for second-stage brooding after the poults are two or three weeks old, when it is safe to move some of the flock to less warmly constructed

It will pay you to be sure that you can handle the growing flock when colder weather comes in late October and November.

Increased **Protein Levels**

TF the protein level in poultry rations Lis increased up to 32 per cent, in proper balance with fat content, it will produce increased gains in growing chicks, according to University of Wisconsin poultry researchers. But energy and protein levels are interrelated, and must be increased together. Chicks on a ration of 32 per cent protein, and energy levels of 1,450 calories per pound, weighed 2.67 pounds at nine weeks of age, as compared to 2.56 pounds for chicks receiving only 950 calories and 27 per cent protein. This would indicate that the 20 per cent protein level usually recommended for growing chicks is probably inadequate for modern high energy feeds.

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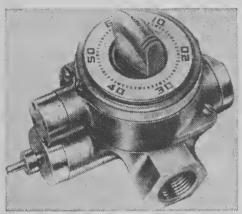
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A water timer, which automatically shuts off water for periods of a minute to an hour, is for heavy duty use with sprinkler systems, according to the manufacturers. (Kaye and Miller Machine Co.) (115)



The Engrav-A-Label is a new type of plant marker made of bakelite rigid sheet vinylite which, it is claimed, has proved itself in all types of weather to seven years without apparent deterioration. (Hedges & Co.) (116)



Polyethylene bags in place of metal cans for shipping cream will save 25 per cent in weight and 50 per cent in shipping space, according to the manufacturer. Each bag holds ten plounds of cream, and they are packed four to a corrugated container. (The Samuel M. Langston Co.) (117) V

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, giving the key number shown at the cnd of each item, as--(17).

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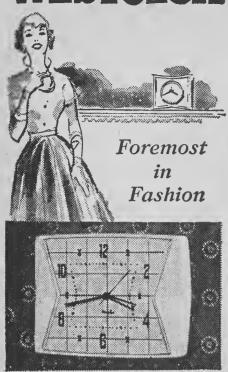
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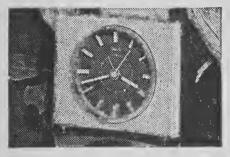
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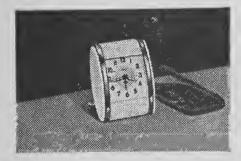
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Young People

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This splendidly effective flower display greeted the eyes of visitors at the entrance to Belleville Exhibition Grounds. The 4-H emblem was set out clearly in the many-colored flower arrangement-which required some 75,000 flowers to complete. The design and planting were supervised by Gordon Nicholson of the city's Parks Board, aided by the inspiration and enthusiasm of local club members. Thus, those who came from far and near to Belleville's 1955 fair were reminded of junior club work and of the place which 4-H'ers are making for themselves in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada.



From East to West

ANY and varied are the activities of 4-H clubs whose membership has now reached the 73,000 mark in Canada. Let's look in on some of their projects.

The Scotsburn Garment Club in Nova Scotia held a surprise party in honor of Mrs. Alvin Graham, leader of their club for 22 years. The sewing club began in Mrs. Graham's home when school girls were permitted to go there for sewing instruction. The arrangement was so satisfactory that the club still continues under Mrs. Graham's leadership, assisted by the district home economist.

Three brothers from Durham County - Earle, Gerald and Merrill Brown, sons of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Brown, Newcastle, Ontario, are now attending Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. Earle is a second-year student in the four-year degree course, having completed the diploma course last year, when he was awarded the Student Council's gold medal for the best all-round student. Gerald is in second year of the diploma course. Merrill is a first-year student in the degree course. All three brothers have excellent 4-H records-Earle in intercounty livestock judging, Gerald in inter-county seed judging and Merrill with the 4-H grain team.

In northern Saskatchewan Mr. J. D. Neilson, agricultural representative, is promoting 4-H club development. Eleven garden clubs were organized as the main summer project. During the winter months competitions in public speaking were scheduled with the winning team receiving the T. H. Waugh shield.

Keen interest has been shown in making insect collections in Alberta. The collections were suggested in 1954

by the Entomological Society of Alberta. Contest was in two divisions: junior (up to 11 years) and senior (up to 18 years). Specimens obtained in 1954 could not be shown in 1955.

Included in the first prize collection of Donna Mae Nattrass, Manyberries, in senior section, was a beetle not previously found, even by professional entomologists, within 300 miles of the area. Second and third prizes in the senior section went to Joy Molyneux and Hilary Anderberg, Calgary. Junior section winners were: Waync Nattrass, Manyberries, Clint Walker, Edmonton, and Kenneth Beswick, Spring Coulee. The competition will be continued this year. Information may be obtained from Dr. G. A. Hobbs, Science Service Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Miss Echo Lidster, Supervisor of 4-H clubs for British Columbia, gave club members some ideas for sober thought. "We humans are on this earth as stewards for our way of life and for our carth," she said. She wondered whether the present generation had done as good a job as it might when it had allowed forests to be denuded so that the plains regions were flooded, and the plains so misused that they became dust bowls.

She pointed out that 4-H club work has a value beyond the show ring, the judging arena, the sewing room, the kitchen or meeting hall . . . it aids in the development of the individual and equips boys and girls with certain tools necessary to the complex business of living.

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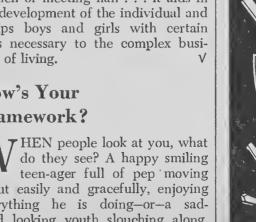
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round shouldered, his spine buckled into a hollow aching back?

Posture is the way you sit, stand, lie, walk, bend, run, lift, carry, swim, dance or move in any way. An easy natural balance of the body makes movement a pleasure. Posture indicates to others what you think of yourself. Don't sell yourself short by slumping—let good posture show you off to the best advantage.

Good posture depends on the framework and muscles of the body. The bones, which make up the framework, are held in balance by strong, active muscles. If muscles are weak they cannot support the framework and posture is poor—the two go together.

How's your framework? Take a good look at your stance in a full length mirror.

If you are standing correctly a plumb line falls: through the middle of the ear, through the center of the shoulder joint, through the middle of the hip joint, just in front of the knee joint and ankle joint. For a good stance keep in mind an imaginary line running through the center of your body.

When you sit this imaginary line holds true again. Make yourself comfortable by sitting on your sitting bones—those two well cushioned knobs. The knee-crosser throws his body out of balance and bends his spine out of shape, so keep your feet flat on the floor, hold your head high and keep a straight back. A good rule for both sitting and standing is—sit tall—stand tall!

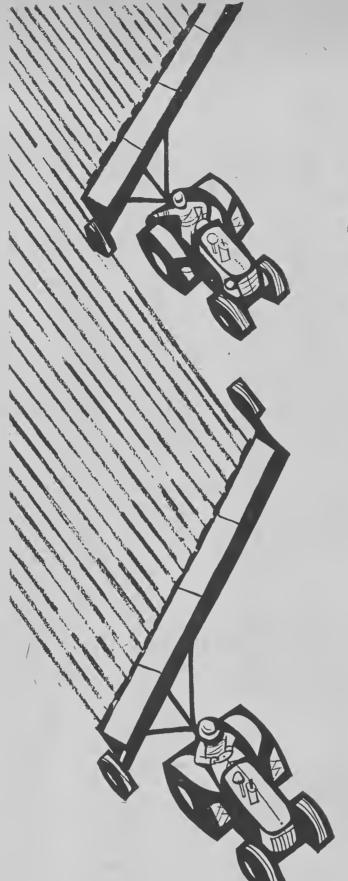
To strengthen weak muscles try these exercises. Stand behind a chair. Keeping the toe pointed and the knees straight, swing the left leg over the back of the chair. Repeat with the right leg. Here's another — put the backs of two high-backed chairs fairly close together. Pull in your stomach, lift your chest and slip sideways through the narrow space.

Exercise alone won't correct your posture but combined with good food, plenty of sleep and clean living habits, health and posture will improve. Watch a good skier, wrestler, hockey player or curler—how easily he balances and controls his body!

You lead a busy, active life—on your toes every minute of the day. You want to feel and look your best. Good posture makes you look smarter, gives you poise and helps you gain confidence.



[Dept. National Health & Welfare photo Walking with ease.



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The only machine that loads in the field and unloads at the barn.

McKee System Saves Both Money And Labour

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WORKSHOP

Do It Yourself To Cut Down Costs

Simple and practical ideas for additions and improvements in and around the farm

Wire Tightener. A handy barbedwire tightener can be made with a

T-pipe and three lengths of 34-inch pipe. The pipes are fitted to the 3/4 x10" PIPE T-pipe by screwing them in on threads, as shown in the illustration, PUT WIRE THROUGH LOOP THEN THROUGH HOLE ORILLED IN PIPE AND TURN WIRE TIGHT



is bored through the upright of the large "T" about an inch from the end. Make a loop on the end of the wire, then pass the end of the other wire through the loop and down through the hole in the pipe. Turn the tightener in the direction of the loop until

the wire is tight enough, and then bend the end of wire which is round the tightener over the loop to secure it.—J.W., Alta.

Pencil Holder. Certain types of ball point pen make nice holders for short



pencils. Remove the ball point element, and replace it with a pencil. If the pencil does not fit tightly, insert

paper staples lengthwise in the sides of the pencil-these can be punched in with a stapler-and the staples will then act as wedges to keep the pencil in place.-E.V.P., Man.

Making Fillers. A good wood filler can be made by mixing liquid glue and sawdust, usually half and half. If a harder finish is needed, more glue should be added. One advantage of making your own filler is that you can use the kind of sawdust which matches the job you are doing. It is important to get the surface smooth, as the filler is hard to sand when it is dry. It will last indefinitely and is waterproof. A good filler for barns, granaries, chicken houses, etc., can be made with sawdust and cement, or ground straw and cement. The straw and sawdust make bulk, and therefore save cement. Mix the ingredients dry to ensure an even mix, and after adding water, the mixture can be applied with a trowel. -S.S.B., Sask.

Handling Ledger Plates. It is not easy to hold ledger plates while putting them on to a DRILL HOLES mower, or taking them off. I have a way to overcome the difficulty by using a WELD RAIL piece of railroad TO FLAT IRON iron, turned over and welded to a piece of flat iron. By drilling holes into what is now the top of the railroad line, I can insert ledger plates into the holes to hold them still while I work on them.—P.A.Z., Alta.

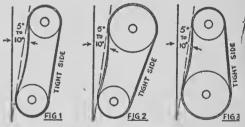
Lubrication Test. To test whether your lubricating oil is being fed at the correct rate, first take four pieces of white paper and write "top," providing steps on both sides.—J.W., "bottom," "right" and "left"—one on Alta.

each paper. Rub the "top" piece on the upper surface of a cylinder of your car or truck, the "bottom" piece along the bottom, and so on. To be properly lubricated the entire surface of the cylinder should be oily, and the pieces of paper will show you whether this is so. Even if oil is smeared on all the pieces of paper, you might find that there is not sufficient oil, or that the oil is rusty in color. By adjusting the feed, changing the oil, and keeping the pieces of paper to check, further tests will show whether your lubrication is improved. -W.F.S., N.J.

blade, fitted with a rod and some rope, will make IRON ROD an efficient boat anchor, as shown in the diagram. The same type of NUT anchor is also HARROW DISK MAKES ANCHOR serviceable in securing corner posts of fences or bracing farm buildings.-D.M.E., Alta.

Boat Anchor. A discarded disk

Friction Belts. If you have no tension device, or wrapper puller, a high friction belt will usually take hold without a wrapper, provided it is five to ten degrees from the vertical as shown in the three sketches. Fig. 1

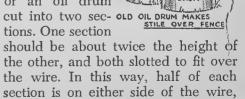


shows how to do it with pulleys of the same size, Fig. 2 when the top pulley is larger, and Fig. 3 when the bottom pulley is larger. In every case the angle of the slack side is five to ten degrees from the vertical. If the drive fluctuates, the angle must be greater than ten degrees, becoming greater as the fluctuations are more violent, unless wrapper or tension devices are used.-W.F.S., N.J.

For Fish Scales. Cleaning the scales off fish often takes some of the pleasure out of fishing. A quick and easy way to do the job is with an old curry-comb. The teeth of the comb do not have to be very sharp .-J.P.E., Man.

Drum Stile. In a place where a gate cannot be made in a barbed-wire

fence, but where it is necessary to cross the fence* frequently, a stile * 73 or can be made out of an oil drum tions. One section



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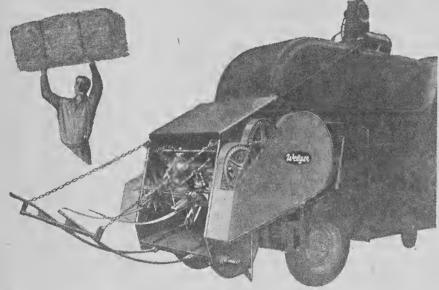
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Joe Reesor and sons David and Darryl inspect the setting of alfalfa seed.

Pete, now over 70, still rides over the farm to keep an eye on things.

Long Road To Irrigation

A half-century of working and waiting are paying off for the Reesors, in S.W. Saskatchewan

by DON BARON

PETE REESOR had a ranch in mind when he filed on his homestead on the banks of the Battle Creek in southwest Saskatchewan in 1904. Located not far out of the Cypress Hills, the land was semi-arid and windswept. It looked like cattle and sheep country. He would always have water from the creek for the stock; "and maybe," he thought, "we can irrigate enough land to provide a dependable supply of winter feed."

Soon, however, land that he had planned to use for range was homesteaded. As the surrounding area was broken and seeded to grain, he watched farmers sink their entire resources in land that could never support them, and finally saw them give up in despair.

Statistics now show that evaporation in the district is three or four times the annual precipitation of about 10 inches. No records of rainfall were available then, but Pete Reesor knew that the sparse vegetation turned brown in summer and that even the roadside growth, after the first lush weeks of spring, usually dried and lay as if dormant. He sensed that irrigation offered the only chance for a dependable supply of cattle feed. His

homestead lay snugly in the bend of Battle Creek and in this fact he saw an answer, if it could only be achieved.

The water in the creek at home lay lower than his land, which made irrigation impossible then. So he worked with neighbors, ditching to bring the water from one farm to another, coming ever closer to the Reesor place. Finally, a dozen years after the early beginning, the ditch was completed. He had his supply of water.

EVEN then, progress was slow. Never especially interested in grain, he put the water on his land and made it grow more forage crops. During the depression, he built up a herd of Ayrshires and delivered bottled milk to the town of Consul just across his line fence. It brought in urgently needed money to sustain him there.

He had a longing for trees, too, typical of a person raised in the fertile and heavily treed district north of Toronto. He got cuttings from neighbors and began to build his shelters. Now, the farmstead brings picnickers from as far away as Swift Current, to take advantage of the shaded ten acres around his home. This area is



Joe's brother, Ron, with Darryl as volunteer observer, brings the flock in for a general going-over for signs of trouble, as well as face clipping.

now divided into several sections, so that separate enclosures are available where he can indulge his enthusiasm for vegetables and flowers and fruits, or just enjoy the breezes that seem to develop in shaded spots.

But the biggest change in the farm has come about in the fields themselves. Now, his son Joe is in partnership with him. A more rapid development of the farm is now possible which began when P.F.R.A. became interested in the district. As part of its plans for the area, it took over the primitive irrigation facilities built by the far-sighted farmers, and began to expand them. This brought a more dependable supply of water to the district. Later, when Joe returned from the air force, he learned that the experimental farm at Lethbridge was looking for a suitable illustration station in the district. He signed up, and the resulting progress has made the farm one of the show places of the southwest.

Visitors to the farm now find a flock of 300 Ramboullet-type breeding ewes, which produced a 130-per-cent lamb crop in 1955. They also see a herd of 30 beef cows, generous stacks of good alfalfa and grass hay, and a growing grass-seed business. It is years since any native prairie grass has been put up for winter feed.

Visitors will find, also, both grassseed and fertilizer tests; and Joe will tell them in his quiet way, that he doesn't begin to have all the answers to this promising business of running livestock on irrigated land. He is certain, though, that it offers greater rewards than does grain growing under the same conditions.

He can point to over 100 acres of irrigated bottom land. Last season he started them on 85 acres of dry land sweet clover, but, in the wet season, it got hopelessly ahead of them. They were returned to the irrigated landa grass-alfalfa mixture-, and the sweet clover was left for seed. Much of the mixture seeded on the irrigated pasture consisted of two pounds each, per acre, of slender wheatgrass, tall wheatgrass and crested wheatgrass, as well as yellow-blossom sweet clover, and alfalfa. Asked about bloat on such a mixture, he recalls that he has had more trouble with cattle on dry land pasture in other years, than he did this year on the irrigated land. He is happy with the year's results.

JOE has another 250 acres of irrigated land and i gated land on his own farm; and although 150 acres of this are divided into fields for barley, oats, flax and wheat, he admits that these are not his best paying crops. Not far away, green swaths of second-cut alfalfa lay ready for the stacker, providing an unusual sight in that dusty southwest. Stacks of first-cutting hay also dotted the 50-acre field. Joe explained that his aim is to produce more and more good forage, because he is convinced that a rotation of grain to provide feed for the stock, and grass and alfalfa for hay and pasture, will pay off best on his land.

He led us to another 50-acre field, where a fine stand of alfalfa was setting a good crop of seed. Joe believes that the opportunities for growing hay and pasture crops in the West, on either dry or irrigated land, have not been sufficiently appreciated. The Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, through its forage crops program, is emphasizing these possibilities, and

Joe senses a rapidly expanding market for the seed. His irrigated land is bordered by native prairie, and he can set crops of alfalfa seed. Other grasses seem to set seed for him too, and he is altering his farm program to take advantage of this additional market.

Meanwhile, as an illustration station operator, he is discovering more of the facts about irrigation farming. Fertilizer tests on his soil, which, though it varies from field to field, can be described as a clay loam, offer some hope that production can be further increased.

He is the first to admit that the surface has hardly been scratched in the

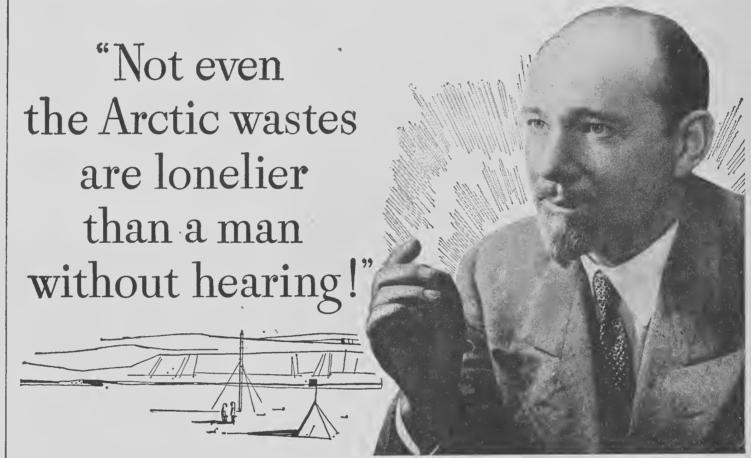
search for understanding of irrigated farming in his area. Progress to date, however, leaves him satisfied that he has found a sound method of farming for the future.

Making War On Snowdrifts

EROY ULRICH lives on a farmstead about four miles from Highway 14, south of Wilkie, Saskatchewan. More than once, in the past, he and his neighbors have been snowbound following winter blizzards. Now, they are laying plans which they hope will see such isolation a thing of the past before too long.

The municipality plans to grade up, backslope and gravel their road, making it a Class A municipal artery. That will help. But the farmers themselves, nine in all, plan to add an extra touch. In the spring of 1956, each farmer (by last account, eight of the nine had agreed) would plant a row of shelterbelt 150 feet back from the road. This will mean four miles of shelterbelts on each side of the road. Once they are fairly well-grown, snow problems for the farmers taking part will be largely licked. The entire length of the road will be protected. V

SIR HUBERT WILKINS, world-famous explorer, says:



"The same radionic science that kept me in touch with the world through 10,000 miles of space, helps me hear friends in the same room again."

Sir Hubert Wilkins is one of the most exciting figures of modern times. His explorations have taken him from the bitter cold of the Arctic to the stifling heat of the tropics. His discoveries have made immeasurable contributions to the advancement of human knowledge. Eminent explorer, scientist, author and aviation pioneer, Sir Hubert tells how he regained his hearing:

"How precious even simple sounds are when you no longer hear them. For years I had felt myself slipping into a crevasse of silence more lonely than any polar waste. And with each passing day as my hearing ability waned, I was robbed of a vital part of an active existence.

"Then one day a thought struck me. Couldn't the radionic science that let me talk to men 10,000 miles away, also help me hear people in the same room? I began my search for a hearing aid—determined to buy the finest. And I found it when my physician told me of the magic of a Zenith Hearing Aid. I discovered that Zenith, the most economical and popular of all hearing aids, satisfies my needs... and signi-

ficantly was created by the same company which had developed my long-range radio. I learned that high price in modern hearing aids was no guarantee of quality. And from the first moment I put on my Zenith, my wonderful world of sound was restored to me.

"I know there are millions of people who are suffering with the same problem I had. To you I say: Don't let a hearing loss rob you of your youth and enthusiasm. Get a Zenith Hearing Aid today. Don't go on suffering needlessly in a world of muffled sound."

We feel privileged to bring this message of hope to America's hard-of-hearing from Sir Hubert Wilkins. He is but one of many distinguished explor-

See your physician! He is the only person qualified to examine, test and diagnose the condition of your delicate hearing mechanism. Don't risk accepting this attention from any hearing aid salesman. Remember, if your physician says a hearing aid is what you need, there is nothing "medical" or "scientific" involved in your purchase of any hearing aid, at any price.

ers, authors, educators, statesmen and executives who could well afford to pay any price for a hearing aid, but choose to wear a low-priced Zenith.®

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Visit your Zenith Hearing Aid Dealer today. His name is listed in your classified telephone directory. Or write to Zenith Radio Corporation of Canada, Ltd., Hearing Aid Division, 1165 Tecumseh Road E., Windsor. Ontario, for free literature and local dealer list. Today



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DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

You Can Check Costly Spoilage

LTHOUGH mobile hay balers have been a boon to the stockmen in reducing costs and labor during harvesting and feeding, some of this gain has been lost through increased spoilage when bales are stacked in the field. Moisture from snow or rain, seeping into the tightly compressed bundles, causes them to "heat up" and become unpalatable. Piling loose hay on top of the stack proved to be helpful, but some farmers have gone a step farther than this-and with very satisfactory results.

C. Williams, prize Hereford breeder of Claresholm, Alberta, found his answer in a series of plywood sections that can be bolted together to form a gable-type roof of any size required. The sections measure eight by twelve feet, weigh about 180 pounds apiece, and are made by nailing three four-by-eight-foot sheets of treated plywood to three twelve-foot lengths of two-by-four. The sections are further strengthened by pieces of two-by-four at the upper and lower ends. Strips of strap iron, bent to a 90 degree angle, and with holes drilled at each end, are fastened to the twoby-fours at the top of each section so it can be bolted to its opposite number on the other side of a haystack, to form a roof.

To aid in handling the sections, and also to enable them to be easily fitted together to form a single roof unit, narrow boards (one-by-four) are nailed to the underside of each section, near the center. The roofs are secured by wires fastened to pegs driven into the ground along the base of each stack.

Rancher Williams finds the plywood sections lighter to handle, and easier to erect than the slat roof covers he formerly used, to cover his hay crop. 'My enterprise makes it necessary to keep large quantities of hay over long periods of time," he explains. "It wasn't too bad when we put the stuff up in loose stacks, but when we started baling it, there was too much spoilage to ignore."

Up in Central Alberta, near Olds, Les Eckland and his son Harry are trying out a polyethylene plastic cover that has been described by Department of Agriculture engineers as the most promising of that type to appear on the market to date. This material can be bought in various thicknesses, of from one-and-a-half to six onethousandths of an inch, and is made in widths of from 40 inches to 15 feet, and can be obtained in any length desired. Quoted price in the West is three-and-a-half cents per square foot, but farmers who ask to have sheets sewn together to give added width, must be prepared to pay about twice that amount, for this puts the material into the class of a

"You can walk on top of the stuff and you won't go through," said Harry Eckland, "but it's by no means tearproof."

manufactured article.

High winds are the main difficulty with this type of covering, the Ecklands report. The wind seems to come right up through the hay. At the present time they are using loose hav piled on top of the cover, but they find it hard to keep it from sliding off the slippery plastic. Attempts to nail boards along the edges of the cover weren't very successful either, because the wind worked at the nail holes and tore the material to shreds. A better idea, the Ecklands feel, would be to put wire netting over the top of the cover, or to hold it down by putting something heavy on top, such as bales of straw. But first you must make sure that your hay is dry, or moisture will condense under the sheet. However, both of them agree that stacks of hav need protection from excessive moisture, and if handled properly, the plastic makes an effective covering. With earth piled on top, it is also very useful for protecting exposed grain piles.

In the lower Fraser Valley of British Columbia, John Nolte, a Barnston Island dairy farmer, protects the forage in his circular silo with a rubber cap that provides an airtight seal which cuts rotting and mold losses. The rubber sheet is spread on top of the silage, and a tube (also of rubber) is placed around the edges.



Water is then pumped into the tube until it is three-quarters full, sealing the edges of the sheet around the walls of the silo. The rubber cap is immune to the action of sun, snow, ice, and chemicals, and will last for years.

Most farmers agree that the increased labor and cost of providing a cover for stored forage is well repaid in reduced spoilage and increased palatability.—C.V.F. \vee

He Makes The Farm Work

HEN Dick Etherington came out of the merchant navy in 1946 and began farming at Hensall, Ontario, he decided that cash crops like beans and sugar beets offered the best chance of making money. But it wasn't long until he discovered that growing cash crops required a lot of work. Now he has turned his farm to livestock. He feeds steers, pigs and runs a flock of ewes, and can find time to visit with his neighbors now.

The way Dick sees it, a low overhead is the secret of this kind of farming, because total income won't be great. To accomplish this, he turned his farm to grass. Of the 150 acres, only 30 are worked. Five are in winter wheat, ten in oats, and 15 in corn, which is used for silage.

Dick buys steers in the spring—75 or more—and allows them molasses, free choice, rather than grain, while they are on pasture. Since his farm is close to Lake Huron, reducing transportation costs on the molasses, it has proved economical. In spring, when the grass is lush, the steers eat very little, but later when the grass dries out, they up their consumption to two or three pounds per day apiece.

In late summer, the steers come in off pasture. By then, the corn is maturing, and he begins to feed it. He fitted two wagons with self-feeding racks. These are filled with chopped corn and the steers help themselves. They are also on molasses, free choice.

Since his area is grain corn country, he can buy corn cobs at a reasonable price, and these are dumped in the yard. They come with some kernels, as well as plenty of husks, so there is some feed value in them. The steers chew through these, and in the fall, to further streamline his meat-production business, he puts pigs behind the steers, and these make further use of



Dick Etherington moved some of the work load from his back to his head.



...does the work of 70 HP duet on wheels...

for ALBERT VAN DEN BOSCH

Manitou, Manitoba

"I do all my spring work with the D4. It does the work normally accomplished by 2 wheel tractors. I use 60% of the fuel normally used in the wheel tractors (one a large diesel) and can work when the ground is wetter," reports Albert Van Den Bosch.

It's been a rough winter—and you've had many good reasons for wishing you owned a CAT* track-type Tractor to keep from being snowbound. But there's no better time than the present to own a D4 and be ready to get an early start on spring work and finish it even ahead of schedule, have time left to clear brush or build that pond.

Many Cat Diesel Tractor owners have cut their labor costs in two—saved on their fuel bills—worked through snow and mud where wheel tractors feared to tread
— accomplished the widest variety of
jobs from seedbed preparation to building
ponds.

Your Caterpillar Dealer will gladly help you plan your farming power program and demonstrate the tractor you need. Own one and you can be the proudest and most successful farmer in your province! See your Caterpillar Dealer for all details.

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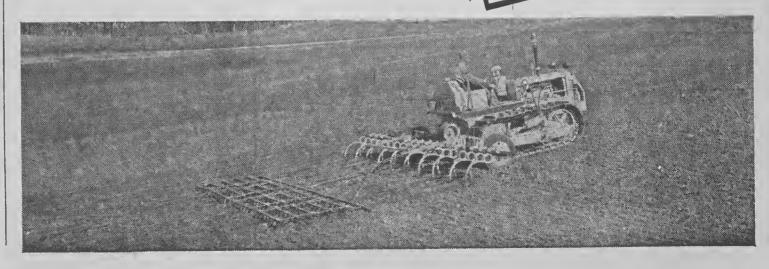
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CLEARED MORE LAND THAN
ANY OTHER MAN-MADE POWER





MANY FARM MACHINERY ACCIDENTS

Each year, more and more accidents from farm machinery are reported. Yet recent machines have built-in safety features for your protection. Most farm accidents are caused by carelessness and hurry. Be safe.

For your family's sake, remember:

- Tractor upsets are usually due to improper hitching, or side hill tipping.
- 2. Keep safety shields in place.
- 3. Keep children away from machines.
- 4. Never have a passenger on the tractor.
- 5. Go slow tractors are not built for speeding.
- · 6. Use your head as well as your hands.

Today, more than ever before, it is necessary to work safely; accidents cost lives and money. Another good practice is to start a savings account at The Canadian Bank of Commerce; add to it regularly; watch it grow. For keeping records, use a current account; pay all bills by cheque. Your cancelled cheques serve as receipts. You'll get a friendly welcome at our nearest branch.

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the corn cobs. The pigs, one to every steer, will thrive following the steers, if fed only a pig concentrate free choice, and a little shelled corn in a trough. Once the steers have been finished on shelled corn and shipped in the fall, he puts in more pigs to round out his operation.

The Etherington ewe flock numbers about 100 animals, and these pasture on about 25 acres.

Fertility is one secret of the high carrying capacity of the Etherington farm. About one-third of the farm is manured each year, and a 25-pound pail of phosphate is thrown on each load of manure before it is spread. Another third of the farm is fertilized each year. The corn may get 600-700 pounds per acre of 10-10-10, while grain following the corn may get over 300 pounds per acre.

With this program, Dick Etherington has taken some of the hard work from farming, and still takes a good living from the farm.

Grass and Rotations Do Battle with Erosion

Grass and legumes heal the scars left from a too-vigorous and long-sustained plowing and cash crop program

ARRY SNIDER began to wage his battle with soil erosion on his 90-acre farm just out of Waterloo, Ontario, in 1951. The soil, ranging from clay to gravel, was generally fertile. But the hilly topography made it an easy target for erosion. Years of grain farming had burned the fibre from the soil, and disaster was approaching in 1951. Gullies had torn their jagged paths two or three feet deep through some of the low-lying areas. Tractor operation was becoming difficult and even dangerous. Tons of topsoil were washing away. Hilltops, once fertile and productive, were almost bare, showing only stones, gravel and subsoil to yield a meagre

When Harry took over the farm in 1951, he realized that he must come to grips with the problem immediately. For 40 years two rotations had ruled the land—oats, hay and wheat, or oats, hay and corn. The soil-saving forage crops were left down only one year—too short a time for them to work their healing magic.

He resolved to turn to grass; and chose a three-year rotation of corn, wheat, and oats as a nurse crop for a mixture of ten pounds of alfalfa and red clover and seven pounds of brome and orchard grass.

He brought a bulldozer to the farm; shoved topsoil from the hollows to the barest hilltops, where possible; and spread tons of manure from his barnyard onto the most seriously eroded fields. Finally, he planned to put 300 pounds of fertilizers (5-10-13, with trace elements) on both sod and crop each year. By now, he is able to see that the entire program is begin-

ning to prove that conservation farming does really pay.

FOR example, he has a 22-acre field seeded in 1951. In 1952, he took 1,500 bales of hay (75 pounds each, out of his drier) from this field in the first cut. The next cut yielded another 1,200 bales. The next year the field gave him 2,700 bales of hay, plus a second cutting sufficient to fill a 12 by 45-foot tower silo.

Or, he can show you another tenacre field that in its first year yielded 1,600 bales from the first cutting followed by three weeks of daytime pasture for 20 cows, despite drought, and, finally, another 300 bales of hay. The following year, the field filled the silo and still left some grazing for the herd.

Every attempt at seeding hasn't been this spectacular. A steep hillside right across from the comfortable farm home affords an example. Though only a small field, it was considered almost too steep to work, and had been down to grass for 15 years. Harry decided that it needed renovation, and after plowing and working it into an ideal seedbed, seeded it with his forage mixture. He had hardly reached the barn with the seed drill, when the district was hit with the tail-end of one of Ontario's vicious hurricanes. The downpour seemed to carry most of the well-worked soil off the hill, and his work seemed lost.

Nevertheless, in a few weeks the seeds left on the sidehill began to take root, and put a green mat over the field. That fall, the rye he seeded there, together with the grass, was well enough established to give him 275 cow-days of pasture.



Erosion of his soil was a No. 1 problem for Harry Snider when he took over his farm in 1951. Here one of many gullies had made farm work difficult.



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Nonglare finish on instrument panel top. Eliminates tiring reflected glare for safer daytime driving.

Safety-Rim wheels. Help keep tires securely on rim in the event of a blowout. Afford extra control for safer stops.

Safe-Guard hydraulic brakes. Have two cylinders in each front wheel instead of the usual one, for smooth and predictable stopping power.

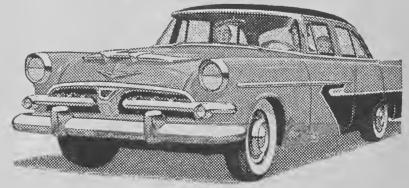
Independent parking brake. A powerful secondary braking system. Gives driver an extra brake for added safety.

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Other Dodge safety features include tubeless tires, safety hood latch, and box-section frame construction.

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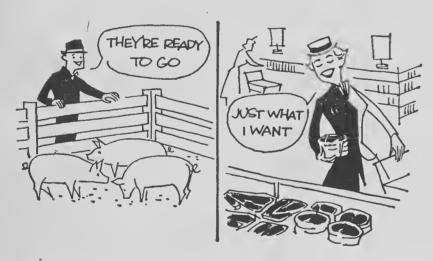


Quality in meat, as in every food product, is finally judged when it's eaten. Each meat consumer has his own ideas of quality but to most people it is a desirable combination of flavour, tenderness, and relation of fat to lean. To put a quality product on the table requires skill and efficiency in production, processing, distribution and, finally, in kitchen preparation.

Each meat animal has certain basic individual qualities depending on the way it has been bred and fed. The market grades and classes of livestock must relate these various qualities to consumer preference, and so they do. They are based on the same factors which make for meat quality—weight, age, conformation and finish.

Livestock, unlike fresh eggs, apples or potatoes, don't reach the consumer in the same form in which they leave the farm. The latter products are graded for quality as they are packed in carton, box or bag. There are still minor variations in size, weight, or colour, but inside the skin or shell the quality is uniform.

Not so with commercial livestock. Each animal is, in effect, a bundle of products of varying desirability already prepackaged by nature. Grading based on the apparent average quality within the package, permits a cash settlement when the animal is sold to the packer. As the carcass passes down the disassembly line it is trimmed and processed to consumer requirements. Only then can the quality of the wide range of individual cuts and portions be appraised from the consumer's viewpoint.



For his part, the packer makes a careful selection of product to conform to his own brand standards. Guided by the brand lines which best suit her taste and budget, the housewife can select the quality of meat desired.



"DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER

We don't buy "No. 1 Northern Bread" because it takes more than the best wheat to make the best loaf. Seems to me it's about the same with meat. Grading of the raw material—livestock—is the

guidepost of quality to producers. At the other end, packers' brands on the finished products—meats—, are yardsticks of quality to consumers. Pretty basic to moving meat, I'd say.

Write for free copies of "A letter on Canadian Livestock Products".

MEAT PACKERS COUNCIL OF CANADA 200 BAY ST., TORONTO 1

Adaptable Farm Buildings

Continued from page 11

struct; and both curved rafters and pole buildings are noted for their resistance to damage by wind.

One requirement of a curved rafter building is an adequate foundation wall, or support for the ends of the rafters. This foundation wall should be sufficiently firm to carry the weight of the roof and should be at least 12 inches above the ground to protect the ends of the rafters from deterioration by moisture. With curved-arch construction it is not possible to completely open the sides of a building, because wall sections at least six feet wide are necessary between door openings, to adequately support the

In some cases this is a disadvantage, but sufficient doorway openings can be provided along the walls for most building requirements. When this type of building is used for the loose housing of livestock, the lower section of the wall must be protected from the manure pack. This can be done with a three- or four-foot concrete foundation wall, though a high wall increases the cost.

An alternative method is to install vertical pieces of 2 x 6's, about two feet inside of the wall, to run from the floor to the curved wall section at each rafter and then sheet it with creosoted plank. This false wall, just inside the main wall, will keep the manure away from the roof rafters. If grain is stored in these buildings to a depth of more than three feet, cables must be used to tie-in the rafters to anchors in the floor; otherwise the building will spread, due to the pressure of the grain.

TF vertical walls are considered to be ■ essential, A-type or arch-type trusses, of wood or metal, can form the roof of general service buildings. Plans for standard, bolted A-frame trusses can be obtained from lumber dealers. Information can also be secured on the proper installation of suitable bolt and ring connections, which provide secure joints or splices. Metal trusses, or complete metal buildings, can be purchased from dealers in this type of merchandise.

In constructing buildings with framed, vertical walls, it is extremely important to provide fully adequate bracing, to keep the walls in place. Knee-bracing between the truss and the wall is essential in these structures. When a fire-resistant wall is required for some special purpose, trusses can be set on concrete-block walls having suitable columns for lateral support.

Pole barns and service buildings can be built at low cost. They do not require a foundation of any kind, and as the poles are set into the ground, these buildings do not require any special wind-bracing.

Buildings built with poles have many features which are desirable in an all-purpose building, but they have two disadvantages. As poles are located at intervals of about 15 feet in the floor area, these structures do not provide an entirely clear floor space.

In many cases this does not matter, but a clear area has advantages when the building is used for processing, or for storing large pieces of machinery. In general, it is not as easy to adapt a concrete floor to a pole barn, nor can such buildings be insulated as easily.

ENERAL utility buildings can be built at present for from one to two dollars per square foot, depending on the method of construction and the depth and height of the foundation walls. A concrete floor costs 25 to 30 cents per square foot.

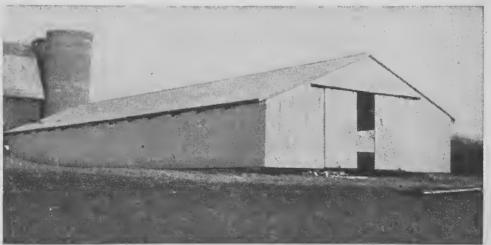
A beef cattle shed 50 by 100 feet can shelter about 100 head of feeder cattle, when the hay is stored outside and fed in an outside feeder. Yard arrangements can be made easily, to divide a herd into two or three parts as required.

Roughly 40,000 to 50,000 bushels of grain can be stored in a 50-by-100foot building. The cost per bushel for such storage space is less than for numerous small bins. Portable elevators can load the building by dropping the grain through hatch openings in the roof.

By adding a milking parlor to one of these buildings, it can be arranged to house 15 to 20 milking cows and provide storage for long hay. If baled hay is used, the herd can be increased to about 30 cows.

A 50-by-50-foot, or a 50-by-100-foot building will store a lot of machinery, lumber, fertilizer, fence posts, baled hay, or apple boxes. If such a building is not long enough a section can be added at either end. If it's not in use, it could be rented for storing construction machinery, highway equipment, or as automobile storage space. It might be found just as adaptable for an auction sale, or a county fair.

(Note: W. Kalbfleisch is senior agricultural engineer, at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.—ed.)



fC.1.T.C. photo

The simplicity of pole frame construction permits quick erection at low cost. Pressure-treated poles will help to ensure permanence of buildings.

Watch the Traps In Your Plumbing

by L. J. SMITH

A TRAP is a necessary device to keep sewer gases from entering the home. The waste water passes down through the trap and leaves a water seal, which holds back the objectional gases. All cities have an ordinance requiring the use of traps in connection with plumbing fixtures.

There are two main types of traps under our sinks and wash bowls; the "half S" trap, which leads back through the wall to the hidden plumbing stack (Fig. 1, top), and the "S" trap, which has a long nickeled pipe going straight down through the floor. These traps are very simply connected to the short drain-plug pipe (Fig. 1,

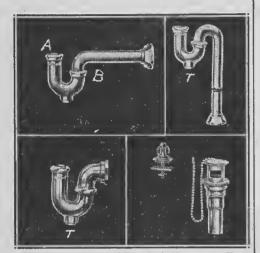


Fig. 1: Top, ½-S and full traps. Below: ½-S trap, drain with overflow.

bottom right) at the bottom of the sink or lavatory, by a slip joint and rubber gasket, so anyone can easily remove the entire trap, if necessary, for cleaning.

Traps usually have a clean-out plug at "T" which may be removed, with pail underneath, for cleaning, or to remove any piece of jewelry which may have fallen into the drain. To unscrew the complete trap, use wrench at "A" and "B".

The trap at the end of the bathtub, called a drum trap, is under the floor, with a top which is unscrewed for cleaning, and is flush with the floor (Fig. 2). It may be covered with linoleum, but it's there. Sometimes it is in the floor of a closet next to the outlet end of the tub. This trap, being larger than the others, seldom requires attention.

Traps usually clog because of the slow accumulation of greases, lint and other foreign matter, which slows the emptying of the fixture. This allows the grease to stick to the surfaces of the bowl or sink, causing the fixture to become dirty sooner than necessary. One may think that a trap is clogging, when it is just an accumulation of hair and lint on the cross pieces under the

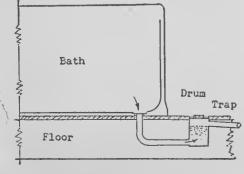


Fig. 2: Drum trap under bath tub with top unscrewed for handy cleaning.

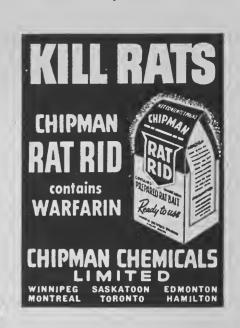
drain plug, which is easily removed with a hairpin.

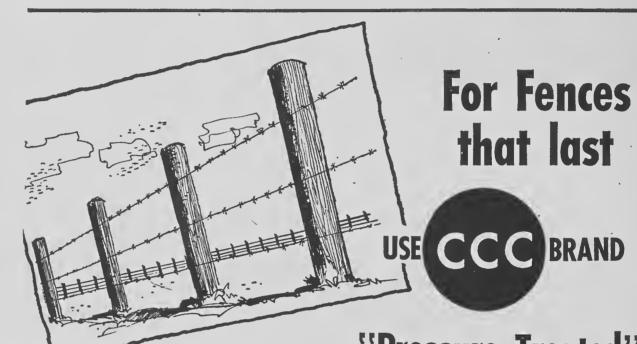
Hot water and a strong grease solvent will remove the thick grease scum from most traps, but these chemicals are hard on the shiny surface of the porcelain. It is better to use a force cup at the outlet, or to remove the plug at the bottom of the trap and scrape out with a small, flexible, wire brush, or a short piece of rubber-covered electric wire. To use the force cup, fill the bowl with warm water and plunge the cup slowly up and down over the drain outlet. The rubber cup forces the water vigorously down through the trap and pulls it back again, something like a wet rope being worked back and forth. This action will, in a few minutes, release

the heavy film and thoroughly clean the inside of the trap and drain pipe.

Sometimes an obstruction gets through the trap, and stops in the pipe beyond. In such cases about the only thing to do is to remove the trap, to get to the stoppage with a flexible wire, or to use a coil-spring closet auger, of which there are several types.

In the case of the toilet, the trap is right in the bottom of the porcelain fixture, it may clog because of something falling into the bowl—a pencil, for example—which cannot get around the bend at the top of the trap. Toilet paper then slowly accumulates around the pencil. Or it may be a tooth brush, which slowly, but increasingly retards the outflow of the waste water, until,





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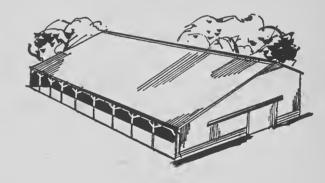
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MANUFACTURERS LIFE

if not removed, the water overflows the top of the bowl. A strong wire with a hook, or a closet auger will usually remove the obstruction. If not, the only way is to unscrew the water connection at the back of the bowl, and remove the screws which hold the bowl to the floor. Then one can get directly at the obstruction. The closet bowl rests on a gasket, or thin layer of plastic joint material, which is easily renewed.

These drain cloggings do not occur very often, but they seem to come when it is hard to get trained assistance. So, one just has to do the job, which requires a couple of wrenches. If a suburbanite, it's well to have a force cup and closet auger on hand for an emergency.

Robbery After Prayers

by L. VAN DITMARS

HAVE never kept bees, but the finest honey I have ever tasted came from wild bees, deep in the jungles of Sumatra. Its harvesting was a matter of mystery and romance.

One day my husband came to tell me that three professional men from the north of the Island were coming to extract. "Tomorrow," he said, "you will have the finest honey you have ever tasted."

He had never seen the performance before, and was as excited as I. Near the office was a high tree, the "Tualang." It was taboo and worshipped by the natives. It could never be felled like its neighbors. Felling it, the natives maintained, would bring death and disaster. It was this tree that the bees chose, and high in its leafy crown they had built nine large hives. Made of mud, and approximately the shape of a wasp's nest, they hung down more than four feet. Between them and the ground there was 100 feet of smooth, grey-barked trunk.

After sunset, my husband and I, and some interested assistants and natives, went out to watch. It was getting very dark indeed, for it appeared that a moonless night was a "must" for this job.

The professionals were thin and black like Hindus. Two were dressed in sarongs and cabaja, and one in

Preparations involved inspecting and hammering some little spouts into the trunk. Their equipment consisted of long ropes, about ten large kerosene tins and several "fackles" or torches. There were other smaller things, too, but I could not see them in the surrounding darkness.

We watched the three of them stand at the foot of the tree, and heard the murmur of prayers. They lit fackles, then prayed more intensely. In the light of the fackles their faces appeared serious, and their thoughts far away. It was a fantastic sight.

By a sign, the man in shorts started to climb the tree, bearing with him a torch and the end of a rope. The higher he climbed, the louder came the prayers from the two below; and the more mysterious the scene as we watched the ascent, marked by the red-yellow light of the fackle. When nearly at the top of the tree, the climber seemed as small as a monkey. The prayers became even more intense. He waved his torch between the hives, and from then on the bees dropped to the ground like rain.

There were thousands of them. They were large bees. They had no intention of stinging, but streamed down as though they would never stop. The prayers continued. At last they came down only sporadically, then they stopped.

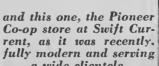
A stillness followed, and then the borders of the jungle awakened, and sounds and cries were heard. The man in the tree gave a shout: the two below tied a kerosene tin onto a rope. In response to a signal it was hauled up the tree, filled with honey and lowered again. Up went another tin, and down; and so it continued until eight or nine tins were filled. It was difficult work, and the men had to hurry, because all must be finished before sunrise. When the last bucket went down and the climber descended, all three were exhausted.

The honey still had to be divided. We kept half, the rest went to the three men, who sold it in the town very profitably.

That morning, after sunrise, there were bees everywhere, even in the houses. No one was stung, and eventually they disappeared. I felt sorry for the bees, they had done all that hard work for nothing.



Co-operative growth over the past 50 years has been spectacular. This picture shows the Davidson Co-op store in the days of the flivver. [Grain Growers' Guide photo



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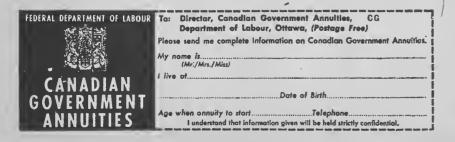
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Wonder Drugs

Continued from page 10

The conference also favored feeding antibiotics to calves and steers with low-grade infections brought on by shipping exposure, feedlot infection or bad weather.

The drugs have been found effective with dairy calves at the University of Saskatchewan, when they are brought straight from colostrum to a milk replacer formula including an antibiotic. Scours are no longer a serious problem under this system. Antibiotics may eventually prove effective for dairy cows by helping them to produce better milk more economically. Small quantities of antibiotics are unlikely to have an adverse effect on the milk.

Unless scours are a problem on the farm, says Dr. Whiting, antibiotics should not be used for cattle. Farmers would need to buy more supplements, or to take their grain and antibiotics to a mill to be mixed or pelleted, and he doubts if that would be a paying proposition.

Dr. Branion thinks that antibiotics may have a place in cattle feeding, because it looks as if bacteria in the rumen are not upset by the drugs. There is also support from S. R. Haskell, Animal Husbandry Department, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, who says that there is evidence that the drugs can be used in the feedlot at higher levels than was thought before.

ONE chemical company ran a test with 100 head of wintering steers on a ration containing aureomycin for 168 days. They showed an average gain of six pounds per head above a similar group which was not fed the antibiotic, and achieved this with less feed per pound gained. This gave an added return of \$353 on the 100 steers, over and above the cost of the aureomycin.

At the Washington meeting, there was a report on preliminary tests with dairy cows at Cornell and Louisiana universities, showing to date that the lactating cows enjoyed better health and suffered no harmful effects from antibiotics. Dairy calves showed 10 to 30 per cent increase in growth with antibiotics, and scours decreased.

It is important to point out that this type of antibiotic feeding is not the same as using antibiotics to control mastitis, where it has been found that there are sometimes small amounts of the drugs in milk. These prevent cheese starters from working. Dairy specialists at the University of Wisconsin have been working on this problem, and have devised a method of detecting the antibiotic in the milk.

It was agreed at the Washington conference that more research information was needed before antibiotic supplements could be recommended for all lamb rations without reservation. However, it was reported that aureomycin has made it easier to get lambs on to full feed; death losses from enterotoxemia have been reduced; there was less trouble with pneumonia and scouring; and improvement in carcass grade and dressing percentage.

Dr. Whiting reckons that a rancher in the Lethbridge area, with a flock of about 5,000, would have to save all his lambs and get a lot of increased feed efficiency to make antibiotics a paying proposition. But he would not advise any farmer not to use antibiotics.

The wonder drugs are used extensively in the poultry industry now, and the Experimental Farm, Brandon, considers that this appears justified in promoting increased gains and reduced feed when raising young stock for sale as poultry meat. But in rations for laying hens or growing stock for replacements, it is of questionable value, although aureomycin added to the chick starter helps egg production and feed efficiency later.

THERE seems to be general agreement among poultry specialists that antibiotics are an effective growth stimulant, especially for broilers, where rapid growth is wanted. Dr. S. Slinger, Poultry Department, Ontario Agricultural College, has had some success with layers, and recommends antibiotics in all poultry rations, including those for pullets on the range. Dr. Branion recommends increasing antibiotics when there is mild respiratory infection in the laying flock.

Favoring antibiotics as growth stimulants, except in laying birds, Dr. J. R. Aitken, Poultry Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, says that even though a poultry disease is not known to be cured by an antibiotic, the bird is weakened by disease and antibiotics can prevent secondary infection. The drugs can be used also as "shots in the dark" in treating flocks, because there are not enough pathologists or facilities for diagnosing every infection.

Turkey poults fed aureomycin, with a vitamin supplement, have shown less tendency to poor growth, broken feathers, dermatitis, perosis and diarrhea, according to Dr. Slinger and Dr. W. F. Pepper, of the Ontario Agricultural College. In some cases, antibiotics have reduced the need for minerals. Penicillin has caused growth increases in goslings, but not significantly in females, and only in the early stages with males.

Antibiotics in livestock feeds have developed into an industry worth millions of dollars a year, and this has happened so rapidly that it is not surprising to find that there are differences of opinion as to their value. So much depends on the conditions under which trials are made, the quality of livestock involved, and the purposes for which they are intended, that it is impossible to say yet that antibiotics are necessary in all circumstances.

There seems to be little doubt. however, that as growth stimulants and disease resisters antibiotics are effective, even though all the processes affected by them inside the animal are not yet known. The important points to consider are whether rapid growth needed, whether increased feed efficiency compensates for the extra cost of antibiotics, and whether there are diseases in the feedlot and poultryhouse to be resisted. Feed companies have already made antibiotics regular ingredients in many of their feeds, and there does not seem to have been too many protests against them. In fact, the time seems to be drawing near when all commercial feeds will include antibiotic supplements, and it is important that there should be no doubt about their effects.

Fewer Scottish **Shorthorns Sold Overseas**

Canadian buyer paid record price for bull, but the sale average was lower than usual

by SIDNEY MOORHOUSE

TEAR after year, the second week in February brings beef producers from many parts of the world to Perth, Scotland, for the annual show and sale of the Scottish Shorthorn Breeders' Association. The animals are judged on the first day, and during the next two days it becomes a matter of great interest whether the judging is confirmed by the prices at the sale.

C. H. Bennett, of Tasmania, judged the bulls, and after taking six and onehalf hours to do so, remarked that it was a vintage year for the beef Shorthorn. He said that the over-all display was far superior to what he had seen on his visit four years ago.

The supreme champion was an outstanding, late February dark roan, Glastullich Gay Lad, from the herd of Wm. MacGillivray, of Nigg, Rossshire. The sire of this bull was Calrossie Hyperbole, which was by Calrossie Welcome from the famous Calrossie herd of Capt. John MacGillivray, father of Wm. MacGillivray and reigning "Shorthorn King."

The reserve supreme, and junior, champion was the early April Kair Masterkey from G. J. C. Anderson, Fordoun, Kincardinshire. This was a son of another Calrossie bull, Calrossie Crocus Count, and his dam was Corrimony Golden Sovereign, a noted stock-getter in North America.

When the sale started on the second day, there was little expectation of sensational prices, as it was noted that quite a few familiar faces from North America and Argentina were absent this year. There was little to excite enthusiasm while about 100 heifers were up for sale, except for a spirited duel for the reserve champion female, R. M. Adam's Glamis Princess Rose, which was bought for 700 guineas by James Schofield, the wellknown Argentine exporter.

In the bull sale, William MacGillivray's champion was sold for 6,200 guineas to Neville Blond, a Sussex breeder. The reserve and junior champion fetched 5,600 guineas from R. M. Adam, of Glamis, and the reserve senior champion, the early February Kinellar Napoleon, entered by Sylvester Campbell and Sons, made the top price of 8,500 guineas, paid by Cyrus K. Eaton, of Cleveland, Ohio. Kinellar Neptune, reserve junior champion, was sold to San Jacinto, Argentina, for 3,400 guineas.

THERE was exciting news at the 1 annual meeting of the Association later, when it was announced that a bull listed in the catalog, which had not been shown at Perth, had been sold to Canada for 15,000 guineas. This is the highest amount ever paid for a Shorthorn bull in Britain, and the honor went to Bapton Constructor, a son of Calrossie Constellation, tracing back to the famous Calrossie Welcome, belonging to Cecil Moores, of Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire. The bull is for Louis Cadesky's Louada herd.

There was brisk bidding for the better type of bull on the second day of the sale. Grant Campbell, of Moffat, Ontario, paid 500 guineas for the

mid-March Cluny Bonaparte, offered by Mrs. B. H. Linzee Claeson-Gordon. Calrossie Klondike, from J. and D. P.

MacGillivray's herd, was bought for

480 guineas by Reford Gardhouse, of Milton, Ontario.

The 266 bulls grossed £156,126, averaging £586, compared with the 1955 average of £653, and £670 in 1954. This reduction was mainly due to the decline in overseas trade.

- Grant Campbell, addressing a Scottish discussion society some days before the show, warned them that the North American market for pedigree cattle had almost dried up in the past 18 months, because the good farmer could not afford to pay £500 to £700 for a stock bull now. He asked Scottish breeders to get back to the qualities that distinguished the Shorthorns of half a century ago.

The current market demand in Britain is for the smaller, compact animal, capable of producing the smaller quality cut. It might well be that in catering to this home demand, Shorthorn breeders are in danger of losing the overseas market which has been the mainstay of the big Perth sales. V



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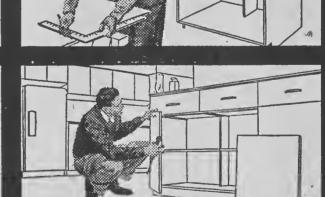


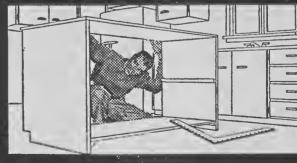
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Hail Control Now Considered

ARMERS of Mountain View and Kneehill municipalities, in Central Alberta, have the dubious distinction of living in the worst hail belt in North America; in fact, the second worst in the whole world. Fertile soils and adequate rainfall make this area of a million-and-a-half acres one of the richest in Canada in terms of potential production—except hail. Hail is the No. One enemy, causing many farmers to lose their hay and grain crops four and five years in succession.

As Mark Twain once said, "Everyone talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." But these days the saying doesn't quite apply. The Water Resources Development Corporation of Denver, Colorado, headed by world-famous Dr. Irving P. Krick, is attempting to do something about the weather, through a weather modification service, which the company operates on a world-wide scale, often with outstanding success. Through a Canadian subsidiary, this service is now being offered to farmers of Mountain View and Kneehill municipalities, and there is a strong possibility that hail suppression measures will be attempted this year.

Moist vapor clouds from the Pacific pass over the mountains at heights of from 10,000 to 15,000 feet. When they reach the prairie, they slowly descend to about 5,000 feet, where they come in contact with intense heat waves reflected from the ground. This

causes them to rise again rapidly into the upper atmosphere. Here, chilling temperatures cause ice to form on the particles, which makes the clouds become heavy again, and descend earthward. This rapid up and down motion continues, with the ice particles becoming larger all the time. (If you split a hailstone open with a razor blade you will see that it is composed of layers of ice, each denoting a trip into the upper air.) Finally, the clouds become overweighted, and drop their load on the ground as hail.

Hail suppression is attempted by placing a series of silver iodide generators in the path of prevailing winds, about five or six miles apart (one per township) and from 30 to 50 miles in advance of the area to be protected. Word that a storm head is gathering in his area is phoned through to a generator operator, from the nearest weather station, and he sets his machine in motion. The generator releases thousands of tiny particles of the chemical (almost insoluble), which are born aloft by natural air currents to the 15,000-to-20,000-foot level, where the storm is gathering. There they replace the moisture particles, causing the clouds to drop their load

There are several "if's" or "but's" to this method, depending on local conditions, the placing of the machines, and the effectiveness of communication. For one thing, it takes from two to four hours for particles to travel from the generator to the storm center, so each operator must have the warning some time in advance. Another is that roads in the western part of Mountain View peter out against the Rockies, making it difficult to set up generators far enough ahead of the area to be protected. It is estimated that at least one-third of the municipality would receive no protection at all. Also, the point has been raised that Mountain View, already well served with moisture, wouldn't welcome any more drenching rains.

In other words, it's a gamble, but from a series of meetings held in both municipalities last year and this, it would appear to be a gamble that the farmers of Mountain View and Kneehill are willing to take. Cost of the venture is said to be a levy of ten cents per acre, per year, on all the land, arable and non-arable, in the municipalities. To a farmer with a half-section, this would mean an annual fee of \$32, and those in the most westerly sector of Mountain View would have to pay with no hope of benefit at all. In some cases it would just about double their taxes.

If the scheme were to be a proven success, however, most farmers in the two municipalities would more than regain this fee through reduced hail insurance. The Alberta Hail Insurance Board has agreed that any reduction in hail losses as a result of the project will be reflected in a reduction in annual hail insurance rates.

Because they live in a heavy-risk area, farmers of Mountain View and Kneehill now pay an annual fee of from 12 to 20 per cent of the amount of insurance (basis \$10 insurance per acre) as compared with only four per cent in less hail-prone sectors. This means that to obtain \$3,200 insurance,

a farmer cropping a half-section has been paying from \$384 to \$640 a year in the two municipalities, instead of the \$128 paid by his more fortunate neighbor. If hail suppression means a reduction in these charges, his ten cents per acre will have been well spent.

Comments heard so far indicate that some 50 per cent of the farmers are enthusiastic about hail suppression; from 30 to 40 per cent have taken the "I'm from Missouri" attitude, but are willing to give it a try; and the remainder are set against it. Many are unhappy over the fact that they must guarantee pay in advance for the service, with no rebate if it fails to produce results. However, most favor the idea that each municipality be responsible for payment through a special levy on taxes.

Last year the Kneehill and Mountain View Hail Suppression Associations were formed, and their municipal councils requested the Alberta Government to amend the Municipal Districts Act to allow this special tax to be levied. The Government has expressed a willingness to do this, providing a plebiscite is taken, and the measure endorsed by two-thirds of the ratepayers.

If present plans go forward, there may be a line of silver iodide generators in position to combat any threatening storms this summer. The question bothering officials and other interested observers is this: If little hail damage ensues, would it mean that 1956 was just a favorable year, or could the results be credited to the work of the generators.—C.V.F.



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A Cow Called Julia

by SYLVIA BROECKEL

Julia was a Holstein cow, with a build like the one on the soda box, except that she was predominantly black, with splashes of white on her forehead, undergirth and hocks. My mother bought her for \$10 in the spring of 1905, prior to our trip from Regina by team and wagon, some 80 miles north to our homestead. Julia was tied behind, while Mother and three of us children sat among trunks and household effects.

As all others in the party were men, it was not unnatural that a bond of fellowship developed between Julia and my mother. Their association became exclusive, to the point where Julia would not give down if a man tried to milk her. As time went on she proved to be a greedy animal, with strong-headed tendencies, but Mother never found fault with her.

During the early years on the homestead, Julia gave us many a tiring chase over the prairie. She was tethered on a long chain that terminated in what resembled a gigantic corkscrew. The screw was about a foot long, with a handhold at the top, through which you could pass a stick, to twist it tightly into the ground. There was a herd of cattle some two miles away, and at times Julia wanted to go visiting. Occasionally, she was able to pull up the screw, and would then go bounding across the prairie like an antelope. There were numerous sloughs, and if she saw you following, she would hit for the water and thereby baffle her pursuers. More often, she waited until we went to move her to fresh grass. You could pretty well tell when she was intent on travel, by the fire in her eye. At such times she could pull us children along on the end of her chain, unless we managed to get our feet into a

Later that summer she gave birth to a bull calf, a mile from our sod shack. Mother and my aunt, who had just arrived from England, carried the calf home in a sling made from their aprons. They did not know that a new-born calf could be expected to walk. We called the calf Darkey, and as he grew strong and frisky, my older sister and brother thought it would be nice to hitch him to our little wagon,a store box mounted on home-made wooden wheels-, and put me in for a ride. They contrived a harness of rope and string, and all went well until Darkey started forward. When the box hit his heels he bellowed acute distress and lit out, the wagon with its occupant bouncing high. At the sight and sound, Julia threw up her head and came charging in, while Mother came rushing from the shanty door. The incident ended happily, as I was snatched from the vehicle and Darkey was lovingly licked from head to stern by his mother.

In general, Julia did things on a large scale. She produced 11 calves in as many years, and filled the pail to overflowing at each milking. She would uncover our soft water barrel, and it was always empty when she left. She had an unbelievable appetite. When winter came, a mangerful of hay, a pail of mangolds, turnips and chop, a lump of salt the size of your

fist, and an oat sheaf, were just a starter, as far as she was concerned. When out on tether, she found and chewed buffalo bones voraciously. Twice she incurred the wrath of my English aunt, once by chewing fine linen hung out to dry and again by stripping off the sleeve of a white lawn blouse Auntié was wearing.

However, the time eventually came when Julia got beyond the profitable age, so she was led away to the butcher. As we saw her go, we forgot about our scraped knees and other discomforts she had caused us. Our mother had passed away three years before and we felt that another link between her and us was being taken away. When Julia was out of sight we searched the pasture for buffalo bones and found enough to make a monument to her memory. We planted a cluster of orange lilies on top. The lilies soon faded, but the bleached bones glistened in the sunshine for many a day.

Twenty years later we realized how profitable Julia had been Besides providing milk and meat she had produced enough sons and daughters for a yolk of oxen and the nucleus of a fine dairy herd. The latter enabled us to hold on to our farm when hard times came and while others with greater holdings lost out. Such was the result of my mother's \$10 investment.

Irrigation At Ridgetown

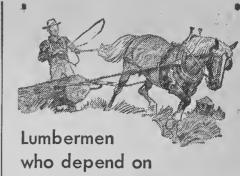
ROBERT HORE, of the Western Ontario Experimental Farm, Ridgetown, reported at Farmers' Week held there, that irrigation could be profitably used for some crops in the area. Three years of trials have shown that tomatoes, tobacco and potatoes all can yield sufficient extra produce, when stimulated by irrigation water, to justify the expense of carrying the water to the land.

Mr. Hore calculated the minimum increase needed to pay for the extra expense involved. Where 1.3 tons extra yield of tomatoes was needed, his plots showed actual yield increases of 6.3 in 1954 and 2.9 in 1955. Twenty extra bags of potatoes were required, but actual increases during the two years were 83 and 170 bags.

It is other folks' dogs and children that make most of the bad feelin's between neighbors. — Ellis Parker Butler.

His calculations indicated a need for 135 more pounds of tobacco per acre, and the irrigated plots gave 245 additional pounds in 1954. Hail took this crop in 1955.

Other crops on trial, including peas, corn and white beans, showed less favorable results from irrigation.



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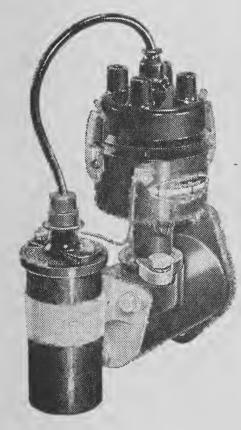
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These flexible chain harrows spread droppings and comb the old grass out of pasture fields about four times each season for the Alvin Bettles herd.

Growing Grass To Beat the Cost

This Ontario farmer finds that permanent pasture, fertilizer and rotational grazing work out to the most money

by DON BARON

IMITED to 100 acres of farmland for his 35 Holsteins, Alvin Bettles at Bayfield, west of Clinton in western Ontario, has turned to permanent pasture to boost his production per acre in startling fashion. He started ten years ago to seed it down, now has 18 aeres eovered with a dense green sod, divided into ten separate fields. Most summers, the ten fields, grazed in rotation on successive days throughout the season, provide sufficient grass for the 35 cows and yearlings in his herd. Often, they leave some surplus as well, for hay or silage. These are surprising results in themselves.

Nevertheless, the heavily manured, fertilized and earefully managed fields have done something else. They green up a good two weeks earlier than most local pastures do; and they earry the herd longer in the fall, as well. In fact, they have effectively shortened the stable-feeding period on this western Ontario farm.

At a time when the ery of farm extension people is for more grass, a drought year like that of 1955 gives all pastures, even the good ones, a black eye. To farmers who haven't mastered the secret of grass-growing, it looks like adequate proof that grass is vastly overrated. But Gerry Montgomery, agricultural representative at Clinton, said that during the past summer, "the dricst I have seen here," the Bettles' pasture "stood out like a sore thumb." True, the herd required some hay to supplement the pasture, but the fields still yielded some grass during the drought.

Other farmers elaim that grass growing is an art, and either you can or you can't grow it. This all makes for a good argument.

But Alvin Bettles isn't interested in arguments. He lets his pasture speak for itself. It spoke loudly enough right from the start, and his father, on a neighboring farm, was quiek to follow along. Mr. Bettles, Sr. reealls now, the

spring a few years ago, when "my eows were bawling over the barnyard fenee at the pastures, which greened up with an agonizing slowness. Then I heard the steady vibration of Alvin's mower elipping the coarse growth after his herd had pastured a field. I applied his methods to my farm and gained an extra two weeks' pasture in the spring."

This young farmer who started in with a barnful of pigs to get quick turnover, and then swung to dairy eattle and a fluid milk eontraet, elaims that hay mixtures won't yield pasture like permanent pasture mixes will. For example, he tried to pasture a fiveaere field in front of the house last summer. It had been down only five years, but plants like alfalfa just quit growing when grazed off short. Now he is seeding that field to pasture as well, because grass is the most important single erop on his farm.

Normally, Alvin grows about ten aercs of corn for silage, another 28 acres of hay, and the remaining landabout 40 aeres-, is given over to wheat, oats and barley. But in dollars per aere return, he'll point to his permanent pasture as the best erop he grows. In faet, he is likely to take you over to the field he seeded down at the start, ten years ago. It is almost bare of elovers, but it still puts out a heavy green growth every summer, provides its share of grazing with the nine other fields, and is too healthy to eonsider breaking up and re-seeding yet.

Here is how the Bettles' pastures are seeded and handled. Shotgun mixes, eontaining about ten different grasses and clovers, are seeded at about 15 pounds to the acre, and the field is dressed with 200 pounds of 2-12-6. With rains and good growing eonditions, it will be ready to pasture in three months.

Every aere gets about ten loads of manure each winter, as well as 200 pounds of superphosphate, 20 per eent. Then each June, another 100

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pounds of ammonium nitrate, 33 per cent, is applied.

That assures fertility. But Alvin has other ideas as well. He bought a set of flexible chain harrows with four different settings, to regulate the tearing or stroking action. He swears by them now, and they are dragged over the fields in early spring, and at least three times during the summer, to spread droppings and comb out dead

Any grass that grows over six inches

While 35 cows and yearlings will be grazing each of those one-and-ahalf, or two-acre fields, every cleventh day during the summer, the fields will often grow more grass than the cows can cat. In 1954, he took 202 bales of hay from three acres.

Here is the most recent mixture Alvin used for permanent pasture. Orchard, brome, meadow fescue and timothy, four pounds each; rye grass, six pounds; creeping red fescue, two pounds; bluegrass and red top, one pound each; alsike, ladino, and white Dutch clovers, two pounds each. This totals 32 pounds, which was seeded on one and one-half acres.

Farm Training For Young Indians

N a sunny afternoon in February, travellers on Highway No. 2, just south of Calgary, may have seen a large group of Indian lads moving about the corrals and stock pens on the farm of Dr. B. W. Banks, breeder of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. If they did, they probably didn't realize they were looking at a unique experiment designed to test the feasibility of training Reserve Indians to take advantage of the agricultural potential of their vast land holdings.

For many years the Indian Affairs Branch has recognized the need to train Reserve Indians of agricultural areas in modern farming methods. Instructors have been assigned to most of these areas to supervise farming and ranching programs, and individual Indians with the required academic standing have been encouraged to take courses in agriculture and farm mechanics at provincial educational institutions. The latest move has been to sponsor experimental winter short courses on Alberta reserves, in order to reach a greater number of Indians who are interested, or actively engaged in farming, particularly those



Young Indians of the Sarcee Reserve are instructed in buying beef cattle.

who haven't the required standing to attend vocational schools.

The winter courses were conducted at ten points in the province, namely, the Blood, Peigan, Blackfoot, Sarcee, Hobbema, Stoncy Plain, Driftpile, Saddle Lake, Boyes River and Cold Lake reserves, over an area stretching from Cardston in southern Alberta to Fort Vermilion in the north, involving Indians from 24 reserves.

Facilities for conducting the courses were those already existing on the high is clipped to keep it fresh and reserves, such as Indian Affairs instructors, shops, schools, community halls and other buildings. Additional instructors were provided by agricultural departments of the federal and provincial governments, the extension department of the University and other interested agricultural specialists.

Farm visits were conducted through the co-operation of local farmers and stockmen.

Young Indians showing special ability during the lectures will receive more intensive training in a course to be conducted at the Olds School of Agriculture, April 15 to June 30. Girls from Indian Homemaker Clubs assisted with the preparation of meals during the period of instruction, and those who showed exceptional interest will comprise a girls' section at Olds for further training in home economics.

Although most of those taking the courses were young, some older Indians sat in on the lectures too. When asked how he was making out, one of these remarked: "She sounds good, but I don't know how long I can keep her in my head."-C.V.F.



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Left: Strawit installed as wall panels in a Calgary office. Right: Allan Bateman, of Innisfail, painting strawbourd panels which were ordered by Ontario Hydro.

Wheat Straw Into Wallboard

A farm waste product is the basis for a new industry at Innisfail, Alberta

HE little pig who built his house of straw with such disastrous results wouldn't run into the same trouble today, if he used modern pressure-treated strawboard. At Innisfail, Alberta, selected new straw from surrounding farms goes to a special processing plant where it is subjected to extreme heat and pressure to form solid slabs, two inches thick and four feet wide, which can be cut into standard building board lengths. The result is a combined structural insulating material, resistant to weather, insects, rodents, and fire, suitable for almost any building need. A novel way to use a farm by-product!

Many people think of straw as a soft, non-durable substance fit for livestock bedding and little else. If kept dry, however, it will last as long as any other organic material, including wood. Actually, it has been known, and used, as a building material for centuries. In Biblical times it was used as a binder for bricks and mortar; more recently, it has withstood the elements for hundreds of years on the thatched cottages of Europe and England. The modern pressed strawboard presents this ancient building material in a handier, even more durable form.

Stramit, as the strawboard is called, originated in Sweden in 1937, and soon spread to Norway, Denmark, and Holland. By 1947, plants had been set up in England, and 20 other countries, under license from the original patent

It was brought to this country by a Swedish immigrant, Sven Jonsson, who saw the possibilities of setting up the business here while working on a prairie grain farm. At the close of World War II, Jonsson went back home to order the necessary machinery, then returned and built a Stramit plant at Innisfail in partnership with a friend, Erland Nelson. Since then, the Company has been reorganized, with Innisfail people holding most of the stock. The president is local businessman J. K. Rimington, with Sven Jonsson as production manager.

The Innisfail plant uses about 100,-000 bales of straw per year. Wheat straw is preferred, although some rye and barley is processed. On the upper floor of the building, bales are opened

and the material forked into a hopper where rotating "fingers" comb the straw so as to form a uniform layer, with the strands lying in one direction. This feeds by gravity to a 100-footlong table on the lower floor, which forms the main production line. Here the material passes under electrically heated plates (400 degrees F.) that also exert a pressure of 240 pounds to the square inch, forming the mass into an endless board. When the board leaves the presses, it receives a coating of waterproof glue, and both sur-

faces are lined with a sheathing of

heavy kraft paper. Material destined for outside construction is given a coating of tar from a series of rotary brushes located further down the

At the end of the production line, the continuously moving sheet is cut into standard lengths by a traversing circular saw. The saw mounting is designed so that it can move with the strawboard, enabling the saw to cut straight across without halting production. Cut edges are then covered with a paper cap which forms an effective seal, and the board has to cool for 48 hours before it is ready for use.

Standard board lengths are eight, nine, and ten feet, although special lengths can be made to order. The paper skin over the material protects it from moisture, at the same time giving a smooth surface which can be painted or treated the same as any wallboard. Sometimes this paper is ripped off to form a rough base for plastering, or to give an attractive "wheatstraw" effect for varnished interior panels. The latter could be called the farm-product equivalent of the lumberman's knotty pine.

Used as an exterior sheathing, strawboard replaces both shiplap and insulation, combining the two functions in one. Farm buildings made of strawboard are warm and comfortable to work in, and excellent for housing livestock, or storing grain and produce.

When in full production, the factory turns out about 10,000 square feet of board per day, or 2.5 million square feet a year, on the basis of a five-day week. Staff employed varies from 15 to 30, the maximum during special rush periods when the plant operates

Although the total amount of straw used is small when compared with the vast quantity produced in this country, the process demonstrates one way in which a farm waste product may be salvaged to build a secondary industry. Modern technology can be relied on to find other methods as time goes on.-C.V.F.

History of Prairie Horticulture

Western Canadian Society for Horticulture reviews fifty years of progress

URING the last year the members of the Western Canadian Society for Horticulture have been engaged in an unusual task. The fact that 1955 was the Jubilee year of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta reminded them at the annual meeting a year ago that a history of horticultural development in the prairie provinces had never been compiled. It was decided, therefore that a review of prairie horticultural development to date, should be prepared for this year's annual meeting, which was held in Winnipeg last month.

The membership of the W.C.S.H. is not large, and consists primarily of those working in this field at the federal experimental farms, forest nursery stations, provincial universities, and provincial departments of agriculture. More than half of the total membership recorded this year consists of persons doing similar work in the United States, some nurserymen, a few fruit

growers, and others with a strong interest in horticulture. The Winnipeg meeting was the 12th annual meeting of the society, which was organized in November, 1943.

The history of prairie horticulture, as it was unveiled to W.C.S.H. members, was not a continuous story. It was the work of a dozen or more committees who brought together available information with respect to the facets of horticultural history with which they were particularly concerned, such as fruits, ornamentals, vegetables, the nursery and seed trade, the contributions made by outstanding individuals, and so on.

A broad approach to the progress made generally in horticulture during the last 50 years was presented by Dr. H. Hill, chief, Division of Horticulture, Experimental Farms Service, Ottawa. Commenting on changes in the volume of production in terms of the number of breeding fruit trees Dr. Hill summed up a careful examination of statistics (where available) for 1901 and 1951.

Considering tree fruits in general, he said, only in the case of peaches has there actually been an increase in the number of bearing trees, or in the acreage. In all other tree fruits there has been a considerable decline in tree population, although the total production has not generally decreased, due to increased production per tree. As an indication of the decrease in tree fruit acreage, he reported 403,000 acres in 1900, 268,000 acres in 1931 and only 176,000 acres in 1951.

WHAT has happened to production per tree during most of this period is suggested by the fact that in 1920, Canada produced 17.5 million bushels of apples, as compared with an average of 14.5 million during the 1935-39 period, 14.8 million bushels during the 1946-50 period, an average of 13.6 during the years 1950-51; and a crop of 19.4 million bushels in 1955. This meant that whereas production per tree in 1900 was 1.69 bushels, it reached 3.66 bushels in 1951. Much the largest increase per tree occurred in British Columbia-from 1.09 to 5.72, as compared with an increase from 1.72 to 2.21 bushels in Nova Scotia, from 1.37 to 3.34 in Quebec, and from 1.80 to 3.32 in Ontario. Something of this nature has also occurred in other

Many factors have played a part in increase in fruit yield. Among these are specialization in favored areas, improvement of, and curtailment in the number of varieties grown, improved management, the use of irrigation and

fertilizers, the development of new insecticides and pesticides, as well as power-spraying equipment.

Operating alongside these factors, but from another direction, have been the changing attitudes of consumer buyers. The attitudes have been modified by a growing lack of bulk home storage facilities, improvements in packaging, the development of the processing industry, and the increasing availability of home refrigeration, as well as the gradual effect of improved health education.

Vegetable acreage in Canada has grown from 36,000 in 1920, to 160,000 acres or more at the present time. About two-thirds of this acreage is in Ontario, of which more than half is grown for the processing industry. Quebec accounts for 21 per cent of Canadian vegetable production, British Columbia 8.6 per cent, the Prairie Provinces 5 per cent, and the Maritimes 1.5 per cent.

THE history of horticulture in west-Lern Canada is inseparably linked to the efforts of pioneer settlers on the one hand, who, here and there felt the tug of earlier enjoyments and persisted in the face of prolonged discouragement in an effort to find hardy fruits, vegetables and ornamentals which would survive in our rigorous climate; and on the other hand, to the work conducted at experimental stations, universities and forest nursery stations in the direction of satisfactory cultural methods, improved varieties, and the distribution of plant material for shelterbelt and ornamental purposes. In the effort to find or develop hardy varieties of all the major types

of horticultural plants, many minds and hands were involved, working under widely differing conditions. Between them they tested many hundreds of varieties of fruits alone, to say nothing of other plant species and varieties. Often, after a hard winter, they experienced the loss of almost all that they had achieved.

The more than 80 years between the time the first fruit tree was planted in Manitoba by the late A. P. Stevenson, of Morden, and the recent 12th annual meeting of the Western Canadian Society for Horticulture was a period of constant endeavor to transform the demanding and sometimes entirely treeless plain, to a condition making for a comfortable rural and urban living. In any history of the times the names of Dr. William Saunders, first director of the Experimental Farms System at Ottawa; Dr. F. L. Skinner, Dropmore, Manitoba; Norman Ross, for 40 years superintendent of the Forest Nursery Station at Indian Head; Adolph Heyer, of Neville, Saskatchewan; John Lloyd, Adanac, Saskatchewan; W. J. Boughen, Valley River, Manitoba; Georges Bugnet of Gunn, Alberta, and others whom space forbids mention of here, will stand out as benefactors of prairie life in the first half of the century.

The 1956 proceedings of the W.C.S.H. will be significant, as the first co-ordinated effort to trace the history of prairie horticulture, and to pay tribute to those to whom it is due. Copies of the proceedings will be available on order to the secretary, V. W. Nuttal, Experimental Farm, Morden, Manitoba. The price will be \$2, and numbers are limited.



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Elmer Robertson aims to produce 50 tons of beef a year on his farm near Goderich, Ontario. He grows corn for silage, alfalfa and orchard grass for hay.

Wants 50 Tons Beef off 200 Acres

LMER ROBERTSON and his son, George, regard steers which they buy as calves from the west, as a means of selling crops. Corn and grass are the two crops that they are setting out to sell from their 200acre farm at Auburn, not far from Goderich, Ontario. Mr. Robertson figures they can send farm production up to 50 tons of beef before they are through. That's a high goal.

An Ontario farmer and his son turn their high-yielding crops into beef

Corn is their favorite because it yields more total digestible nutrients (T.D.N.) per acre than anything else. They grow 70 acres of corn and get high yields through careful attention to soil fertility. Manure from the feedlot is spread on the land. Fertilizer is added. The crop is cultivated once, early, then sprayed for a final kill of the weeds before the corn is eight inches high. The plants are then side-dressed with ammonium nitrate. Alfalfa and orchard grass are his favorites for hay production.

To equip the farm for steer feeding, the Robertsons built a 91 by 52-foot pole barn. The yard was carried 65 feet out in front of this, and runs out 24 feet past one end. Concrete feed bunks to handle 150 steers at a time, were built along two sides of these, while the third side was boarded for wind protection. Nearby, they built a bunk silo measuring 26 by 75 feet, for corn, since they prefer the corn to grass silage.

The Robertsons cross-check their efficiency of operation three ways. They aim at production per acre, per man-hour, and per dollar.

An Udder Towel, Please!

THE cloth towels that dairymen use to wash the cows' udders before milking are expensive, inasmuch as they have to be laundered, dried and sterilized after each using. A towel has been developed by dairy scientists at Cornell University that will make the old type obsolete.

This towel is highly absorbent, as well as being lintless, so there is no danger of lint dropping from the udder into the milk. These individual cow towels prevent the transfer of dirt, dust and bacteria from one cow to another. They are used once, and discarded. They aid materially in mastitis control.-Don J. MacLeod. V

Green Manure For Organic Matter

LOYD and Ken Galloway plow down crops of forage that would gladden the hearts of many cattlemen if they had them. However, since the Galloways don't run livestock on their registered seed farm at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, they use the green manure crops to put organic matter back into the soil.

Last summer, The Country Guide found them turning under such a crop. It was a stand of timothy and sweet clover, four or five feet tall, and so dense that Lloyd could hardly walk into it. Nevertheless, the entire field of 100 acres, was going down under the plow. It was the treatment given to every field every five or six years.

The Galloway seed farm lies in Alberta's black soil zone. It is deep and fertile, and is ideal for growing barley and oats as seed crops. But in 1949, with a view to retaining that fertility, they began their green manure program. Now, they seed about eight pounds of sweet clover and two pounds of timothy with the usual crop of grain in fields to be fallowed. The following summer, when the forage comes to its growth, they plow it down and fallow the land for the remainder of the season. The spring after, they fertilize and begin taking off grain crops again. Meanwhile, about 200 acres are kept in hay, which is stacked and sold. This is another factor in retaining that all-important organic matter in the soil.



The Stick Maker

Continued from page 12

shiny-barked black birch for making fancy candlesticks. He revelled in collecting that diamond willow wood which is peculiar to our part of the west. It's a beautiful wood, and Chris showed us lamps, bowls, tie-racks, toys, and novelties he'd made out of the two-color willows.

As Christmas approached he filled his basket with toys and did a thriving trade. He had to do a lot of walking, because some of our farms are spaced far apart. When I asked him why he didn't go from door to door in Willowdale town, the little man pointed at his mouth and got across the meaning that he couldn't talk good enough for townspeople.

"That doesn't matter at all," Dot protested. "Just show them your handiwork and they'll understand. Wait— We can make it simple for you."

She got a sheet of gummed paper from a new cut-out book we'd given Jeanie. Dot cut the paper into half-inch squares and marked prices on them. Then she showed Chris how to glue them to his articles. Talking wouldn't be necessary, so long as prospective customers could see the goods and note the prices.

I WORRIED some about him getting into trouble for hawking from door to door, and suggested he should have a license. It took a lot of acting and hand-waving to get across my meaning, but finally Chris caught on and beamed. He pulled out one of those old-fachioned snap-top purses and showed us a pedlar's permit.

"Daughter," he explained. "Vashna, daughter. She get."

It was news to us that he had a daughter and we asked about her. Chris pointed north and managed the word "City." Vashna was off in the city. What was she doing there? Chris sat down at the table, picked up one of Jeanie's pencils, and screwed up his face in studious concentration as he pretended to write.

"I've got it," laughed Dot. "She's studying at school."

At that, Chris jumped up and beamed at my wife.

"School, yah! Vashna, school!"

Jeanie wanted to know how old was Vashna? Chris held a hand level with his shoulder.

"Beeg! Vashna beeg!"

"Could I play with her?" Jeanie persisted.

At that, Dot invited Chris to bring Vashna out to see us the next time she was in Willowdale. He thanked us warmly.

"Christmas, Vashna here!"

"Well, then, you and Vashna come to our place for Christmas dinner," Dot told him, while Jeanie clapped her hands.

It was one of the nicest Christmas parties we ever held. Only one thing spoiled it. Bert Frome happened to call in just before Chris and his daughter arrived. When Bert saw Chris go by the window, he muttered something about that foreigner and went out the side door without waiting to speak to our visitors. On Christmas morning,

too! It made me a bit angry at old Bert.

He certainly missed something special. Vashna was a dark-haired, darkeyed beauty of 20. She spoke slow and careful English, translating all day between us and Chris. The fun we had with them! Chris had brought along a concertina and he and Vashna sang us all sorts of fine songs. Then she taught Jeanie a special folk-dance while Chris played music for it. The next thing I knew, Vashna had Dot and me in the middle of the floor dancing merrily. They were amazed that we had a Christmas tree right in the house; in their homeland people decorated a living tree out-of-doors for the festive season and let it live on afterwards. Vashna took Jeanie on her knee and told her some new Christmas stories, ending with the familiar one we all knew. It was good to hear that earnest young voice carefully choosing the proper English words, and managing to convey all the magic of the old, old, Christmas story.

We saw Chris often during the rest of that winter. At Easter, Vashna came home for a short visit and we had another fine party. What a wonderful time they gave us at their little home that smelled so strongly of the varnish and shellac that Chris used on his handicraft pieces.

When spring came, he again made baskets out of limber willow shoots. Baskets are somewhat out of fashion nowadays, but many people bought them from Chris. Dot used one for carrying out the wash to the clothesline, as did many another farm wife, baskets all made by our friend.

Then I learned something else about Chris, that I liked. Bert Frome told me, half embarrassed over the admission.

"He didn't know me," Bert said. "I guess he'd forgotten all about the time I kicked him off my place, else maybe he wouldn't have done it."

"Done what?"

"Well, you know how my lumbago bothers me when the first spring rains come? I went in to Willowdale to see the doctor about it, 'cause it crippled me bad this time. There I was, limping along the street when that foreigner came up and handed me a fine walking stick. He had that big basket on his back, chock fu'l of gadgets to sell. There were a couple of walking sticks poked out the top and he chose the best for me. I'll admit it felt darn good to lean on it right then. I reached into my pocket to get some money, but he said 'Free, Free,' and away he went before I could even say thanks. Why d'you suppose he did that?"

"I'll ask Chris, the next time I see him."

Bert was wrong; Chris had known who he was, right enough. But that didn't prevent him from giving Bert a walking stick. Any time Chris saw a man or a woman limping along and looking as if they could use a walking stick, he presented one at once.

"Make money on toys, on baskets, on other things," Chris explained to us, "Always give walking sticks. Free."

"But why?"

"Always do it, in old country and now Canada," Chris said. "If people need stick, I give."

I still couldn't figure out why he did it without charging, but, Dot said:



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"Good for you, Chris! We could do with more kind-hearted people like you in this country."

Walking sticks weren't the only things he gave away. We'd already heard about poor youngsters getting free toys from him, and there were other kindnesses. It wasn't long before he was welcome throughout the Willowdale district. He stayed away from Bert Frome's place and some other homes where foreigners weren't wanted. But elsewhere the people seemed glad to hear him come singing along the road or street. There was fun and fascination in just watching him spread out his wares. I had a notion about then that even Bert Frome had changed his ideas regarding Chris, yet Bert's stubborn pride wouldn't let him admit it.

VASHNA wasn't due home until the end of summer. Chris came out to tell us a week before she

"School over," he explained. "School all winter, all summer. Now Vashna know t'ings."

We held a welcome-home party for her. That's when we learned the news that Vashna had been engaged to teach at our own country school half a mile down the road. Jeanie screamed her joy, delighted that Vashna was to be her very first teacher. They did a celebration dance together. And at that moment I saw Bert Frome coming in our lane.

"Is Chris Dolpholus here, Sam?" he asked when I met him at the door.

"Yes, he and his daughter."

Bert scuffed his feet on the mat longer than he needed to. Then he sort of set his shoulders and marched in, going straight to Chris.

"You're welcome on my land any time you want to come. You're welcome in my home, too. I'm sorry I was rude to you, that first day."

Vashna started to translate, but Chris waved her aside. He understood well enough, and his smile was good to see as he shook hands with Bert. Dot began to introduce Vashna, but he said they'd had the pleasure of meeting before. Then I remembered that Bert was chairman of our school board and would have met Vashna when she applied for the teaching job.

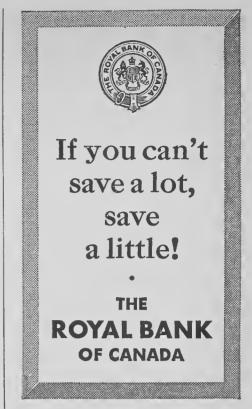
He didn't stay long, though we wanted him to join our party and phone home for his wife and family to come over.

"No, no; we won't barge in this time, but I tell you what- How about next Saturday? Couldn't you all come to our place for a chicken supper?"

We agreed to that, then I walked out the lane with Bert and hinted that he'd really enjoy Chris as a friend, now that he'd got over his feelings against foreigners.

"Well, Sam, it was a case of necessity," he said, and his grin stretched wide. "My boy Don is completely popeyed over that Vashna girl, and if he can do anything about it, I'm going to be sort of related to Chris soon or late!" Then becoming serious he added: "And I'm all for it!"

So was Vashna. She's now our new neighbor across the road. Our good friend Chris the stick maker lives there too.





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The Countrywoman

by AMY J. ROE

"RAISE YOUR SIGHTS"—a challenge by T. A. McMaster, general secretary, M.T.S., to those concerned with education, calls for aim at essential targets — the need to combine, unite and employ the forces and resources of: teacher, parent, student, school, church and the public—a constructive, active campaign to adapt our educational system and practices to the needs of the individual student and to society. Portions of printed lecture "Raise Your Sights!" selected and condensed

HERE is a growing sense of uneasiness and concern in the minds of Canadians today, about the education afforded in our schools. Most of the criticism and defense, the charges and counter charges on the floor of the provincial legislatures, the public discussion in the press, on the radio are at a rarifled or specialized level, inconclusive and often phrased in terms difficult for the lay person to follow and understand.

We can and do build more and better school buildings each year. We are painfully aware of the shortage of teachers; that some persons not properly qualified are and have been teaching—especially in rural areas. Have we made up our minds what we can do about that? What do we know about the qualities and personal educational standards of those teachers, who for five out of seven days in every week of the school year cope with pupils and studies in classrooms? What is the climate of thought of teachers and of those who train, select and direct them in their work?

To hand is a little booklet entitled "Raise Your Sights," a copy of a lecture delivered by T. A. McMaster, to the annual University of Manitoba Faculty of Education Alumni meeting. It was printed and distributed as a supplement to the January-February, 1956, issue of The Manitoba Teacher. Its author is general secretary of the M.T.S. It is a challenge-stated in direct and simple terms-aimed at those engaged in education, but will interest a much wider reader-audience. A condensed and selective resume of that booklet is attempted here-with due and humble apologies to Mr. McMaster and our recommendation to Home and School groups that they secure, read and discuss the 20-page booklet at a meeting, in the near future. Now the condensed version of selected pertinent points in "Raise Your Sights!":

WHAT is our primary target—the goal to which all our teaching power, all of our personal and professional talents and tactics must be directed? It can be simply stated: "to supply mankind's greatest need, the need to learn."

Wisdom, the goal of all education is based on understanding, knowledge, integrity, judgment, imagination, courage, tolerance and faith. These are the pillars of wisdom. Not all of them can be attained through textbook study. Not all can be recognized by young people teaching with an academic, sociologic or philosophic background of an incomplete Grade XI or Grade XII education. They must be attained by careful tuition; by trial and repeated error; through the inspiration of mature, socially minded teachers; and finally by ultimate success in living. It'is our task to help all students attain that goal, or get as close to it as they possibly can. It is to the personal, professional and public recognition of that target, that you and I are challenged to raise our sights. We must not only recognize the target but we must realize that we must make others realize its worthwhileness.

We must raise our sights in many ways: In our educational aims; in the field of professional training and competence; in developing our resources; in our public relations programs; in our recruitment and retention of teachers; in our administration of

education, and in our evaluation of the true place of education in our present society. And in many other ways too, but these seven will do for a start.

It's not going to be an easy task and not a very pleasant one. If we accept the challenge and attempt to remedy many of the current defects in the public's evaluation of the aims of education and if we draw attention to public's own feeble efforts, to apply appropriate remedial measures, without establishing better liaison, we will immediately come under suspicion and we will be challenged at every step of the way. We shall be asked to prove everything we say.

In raising our sights, it will be necessary for us to re-examine many of our educational practices, some of our basic philosophies and ourselves—culminating possibly in a rededication of ourselves, and of our talents, to our chosen task.

What is the proper substance of education? What are we going to teach? What does man need to learn. Someone shrugs this off as being a curricular problem, the responsibility of the department of education and its director of curriculum. Nothing could be further from the truth. The vast dimensions of this—the curriculum problem, if you like, require for its solution the intelligent understanding and united co-operative effort of parents, teachers, administrators, legislators and the general public—everybodyl

Are we going to teach facts and techniques that will ensure a rapid acquisition and a permanent retention of those facts? Or shall we teach facts and develop some method of using them to assist young people to develop desirable democratic behaviors, attitudes, habits, social skills and graces? Which? . . . It is generally agreed that our curriculum must be as varied and rich as we can afford to have it, because only by making it varied can we offer achievable goals for everyone. "Almost impossible" murmurs one, and another, "It would cost an awful lot of money." It's not impossible; certainly would cost money. We can afford to pay that money!

There is general agreement also that we should, if possible, recapture from our ancestors and teach in our schools their ringing affirmations of belief in our country, in our way of life; their respect for free and open debate and their willingness to meet new conditions with new remedies. Surely here are fundamentals which all men and women of good will and courage may defend and toward which we should raise our sights.

WE have not been vigorous enough in combating the sort of mass-education which is aimed at the average, and neglects the exceptional children at each end of the scale. We have tended to give way supinely under local and ill-informed pressures . . . There is enough anti-intellectualism in this country as it is. We should not, even by implication be willing contributors to it.

We ought also to show greater resolution in combating those influences which believe that education can best be achieved if the student is carefully isolated and insulated from ideas and all points of view except those which prevail in a given community at a given time.

If, as his capacities develop, the student is carefully and objectively taught about the differing ideas which men hold about man and society and the universe, and an appreciation of the virtues and objectives of our chief religious denominations, he will be better equipped to deal with the problems and responsibilities of mature life than if he is left unprepared to listen to special pleaders later on. If our teachers are not courageous about this matter, then evil counsellors of society will be . . .

There are other shortages just as grave as the shortage of teachers or the shortage of manpower. One of these is the shortage of ideals—ideals with grandeur; ideals with spaciousness; ideals that dig down into our past and which then come to life in our own hearts, on our lips and in our actions—ideals which give teachers a sense of mission. Without this sense of mission, you fall short of being a really good teacher. Without it, daily assignments are bound to become meaningless. We have been timid about this sort of thing in the past, timid about showing how we feel about our profession. We have been holding ourselves in—we have been selling ourselves short.

Good teachers are artists in human relations. They have to be quick on the intellectual trigger to keep up with the mischievous, the creative, the contradictory and the nimble-witted.

WE must raise our sights by paying more attention to the three R's, not the traditional ones, indispensable though they are, but three others.

First: Resources, both physical and human. We are experiencing such an increase in population as will leave us with no alternative but to abandon our basic principle of tax-supported education or to spend vastly more sums of money on our school system than we have ever done before.

Second: Resolution. We must resolve to demand more serious work from our students at all levels, but particularly at the high school and university levels . . . If courses of genuine intellectual content are pushed aside in favor of those which amuse and entertain the student; if social and group activities, important as they are, are allowed to elbow out the academic aspects of secondary school and university work, then we, in my opinion, should be called to task for insipid acquiescence to one of the worst forms of dilution of standards ever perpetuated on an unsuspecting and helpless school population . . . We should pay more attention to discovering precisely where a man should act socially and where he should act individually. Too much attention is being paid to the social side to the detriment of the individual side. Perhaps the parents are to blame for part of this problem of pleasurable participation.

The third R is responsibility. We must all assume more responsibility, parents, teachers, legislators and the public at large for developing the educational system which will take care of the needs of all children, the average and the extremes at each end... Unless we can train the best minds of each generation and prepare them as best we can for handling all the affairs of our society, we shall run the risk of having those affairs handled by men who are less concerned about public welfare than they are about their own self-advantage. Unless able men lead us, unable men will.

Tomorrow's pattern is being shaped in today's classrooms. What is being accomplished today in each of our classrooms are the determinants in the progression or regression of our society. Our schools then, if they are doing what they ought to do, should reflect the best parental interest in the welfare of children, and also the general public's best civic interest in the welfare of society. Do they? We know perfectly well that they do not!

Teachers' participation in public relations programs . . . is another (Please turn to page 70)

Lots more...tastier too! that's why so many people go for

MIXERMEALS

A "mixer meal" is any main dish of basic foods, combined with macaroni, noodles or spaghetti, it's twice as good because the macaroni product takes on the flavour of other ingredients! . . . actually lots more food, lots more flavour, at lots less cost.

Try the suggestions at the right, or look for "mixer meal" ideas in food columns or in cook books.

TRY - BAKED SPAGHETTI WITH SALMON



Salt and pepper
I pint cream or evaporated milk
1/2 cup grated cheese

Cook, drain and rinse spoghetti. Arronge alternate loyers of spaghetti, solmon and celery. Moke the top layer spoghetti ond pour creom oll over. Sprinkle with cheese. Boke 20 minutes in a moderote oven. (Serves 6).

TRY -

QUICK SAUCEPAN MACARONI AND CHEESE

8 ozs. elbow macaroni ¼ cup butter 2 cups grated sharp cheese ¼ cup finely chopped onion Stuffed green olives Salt and pepper



Add mocoroni to ropidly boiling solted water.

Cook uncovered stirring occosionally, until
tender. Drain. Combine mocoroni, butter,
cheese, onion, solt and pepper. Cook over
low heat until cheese is melted.
Garnish with a

TRY - NOODLES AND MEAT BALLS



1/2 cup butter
11/2 lbs. ground beef
Salt and pepper
1 cup chopped onion
1/4 lb. mushrooms
3 cups tomato juice

8-oz. can tomato or spaghetti sauce 1 cup chopped celery Grated nippy cheese 8 ozs. noodles

Melt butter in frying pon. Combine solt, pepper and meat and form half of it into small balls. Brown them and remove from fire. Brown rest of meat with anions, and odd salt, pepper, mushrooms, tomato juice and sauce. Return meat balls to the sauce and simmer covered for 45 minutes. Pour over cooked noadles on a deep plotter and sprinkle with groted cheese. (Serves 6).

Remember in cartons or canned it's

CATELLI

Fried Chicken

Ways old and new of preparing a favorite tasty food for dinner

RIED chicken, an old family favorite, seems a good choice for Easter dinner. The tender, flavorful meat fried to a golden brown lends itself to a special meal.

Chicken of any size may be fried. The bird may be halved, quartered and disjointed and cut up to give 11 or 12 pieces—two drumsticks, second joints, wings and pieces of back and neck and two or three pieces of breast. Make sure that each piece has its own section of skin.

To prepare for frying, coat pieces with flour, salt, pepper and a little paprika. The paprika helps in browning. Do this simply, by putting the coating mixture in a bag and shaking the chicken in it, several pieces at a time. Heat half-inch of fat in a heavy frying pan until a cube of bread will brown in 30 seconds. Then place the pieces in hot fat and brown on both sides. When chicken is well browned, cover and cook for 25 to 30 minutes. If the chicken is not crisp to your liking, cook it uncovered five minutes longer.

To avoid rush and confusion near dinnertime, brown the chicken in advance, then bake it just before serving. To do this, fry the chicken until crusty brown, then remove it from the fat, cool, cover loosely and refrigerate until time for baking. To bake, place the browned chicken in a single layer in a shallow pan, brush with melted butter and bake at 350°F. 30 to 40 minutes or until the chicken is forktender.

As dinner accompaniments, serve chilled tomato or grape juice, mashed potatoes, fresh frozen peas, carrot fingers with parsley butter, red currant or apple jelly and a fresh fruit pie topped with whipped cream.

Party Fried Chicken

2 chickens for Butter, melted frying 2 eggs 2 c. flour 1 c. milk 3 lb. shortening

Cut chicken into serving pieces. Rinse in cold water and dry. Dip pieces of chicken into flour-salt mixture, then into eggs beaten with milk, then again into flour. Melt shortening in heavy kettle to 350° F. Lower pieces of chieken into kettle. Temperature of shortening will drop to 300° F. As frying continues, temperature of shortening should rise to 350° F. Fry 7 to 8 minutes, until crisp and browned. Place pieces one layer deep in shallow pan. Brush with melted butter and bake in slow oven (300° F.) for 40 minutes or until tender. This method allows chicken to be prepared in advance.

Oven-Easy Chicken

3-3½ lb. chicken Paprika
1 c. flour ¼ c. butter
1 T. salt

Start heating oven to 425° F. Coat chicken with flour, salt, paprika. In shallow roasting pan in oven, melt butter. Remove pan from oven; in pan arrange chicken in single layer, with skin sides down. Bake 30 minutes; turn chicken; bake 15 minutes or until brown and tender. Makes 4 servings.

Fried Chicken Superb

3-3½ lb. chicken	Paprika
1 c. flour	1 egg, beaten
1 T. salt	2 T. water
Pepper	½ c. dry bread
½ c. Parmesan	crumbs
cheese	½ c. butter

Coat chicken with flour and seasonings. Dip into combined egg and water; then roll in combined bread crumbs and cheese. Cook in hot melted butter in large skillet until golden brown. Then lower heat; cook, turning, 30 to 45 minutes, or until tender and brown. Makes 4 servings.

Crunchy Style. For bread crumbs and cheese, substitute 1 c. crushed corn flakes combined with ½ c. flour.

Curry Style. Omit Parmesan cheese. To bread crumbs add ½ tsp. curry powder and 1 tsp. poultry seasoning.

Devilled Style. To egg, add 1 T. prepared mustard and 1 tsp. vinegar, Omit Parmesan cheese; add ½ tsp. paprika to bread crumbs.

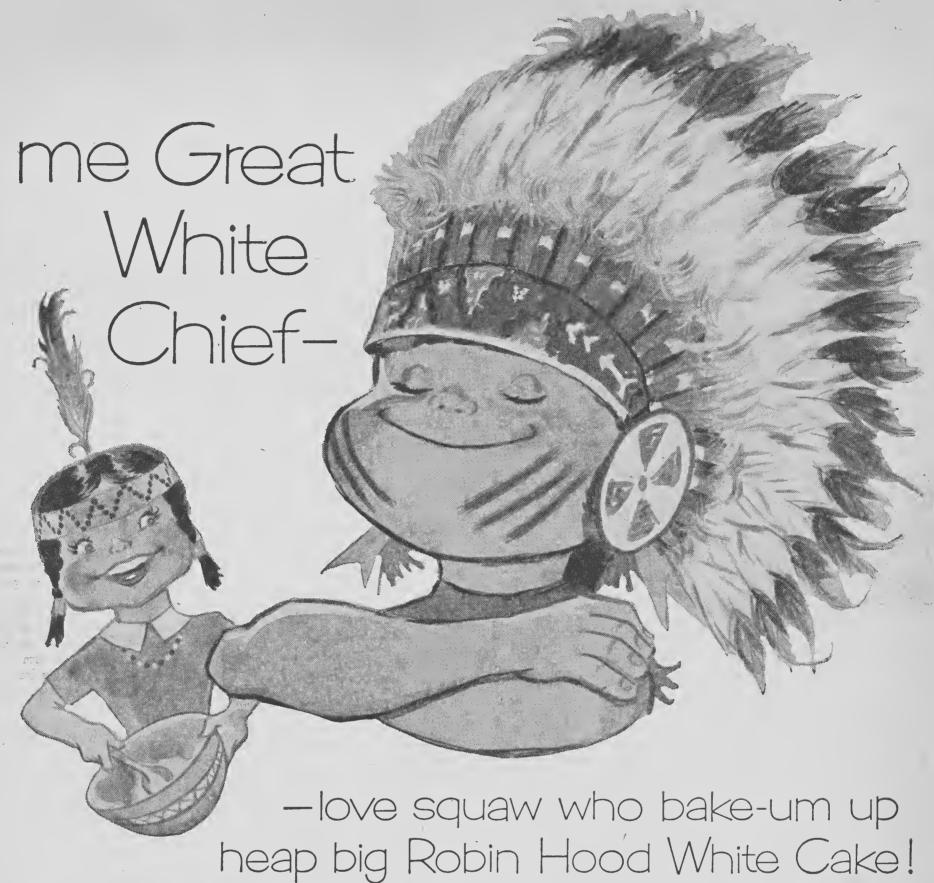
Sally's Batter Chicken

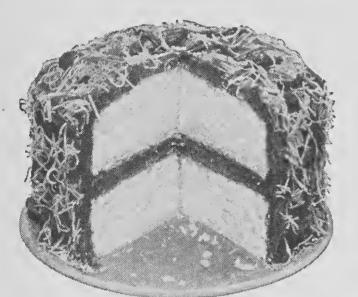
1 4-lb. chicken
3 c. chicken gravy
3 egg whites
4 c. evaporated
milk
1 c. lard or
shortening
3 T. flour
1 tsp. salt
2 c. evaporated
milk
2 t. lard or
shortening
2 T. butter

In advance: simmer chicken till tender, then refrigerate meat and broth. About (Please turn to page 61)

Fried chicken served to display its charms to eye and palate.







Great White Cake like this, f'r instance! Lightest, tenderest you'll taste in many a moon - happy hunting for little braves and maids (big ones, too).

The fixin's? Thick, thick, chocolate frosting, smothered in crunchy toasted cocoanut. The tribe will scalp it fast!

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and I suggest you tune in to

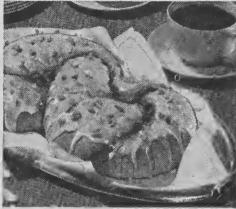
The Happy Gang

Monday through

Friday

One Basic Dough makes Hyummy dessert treats! 1. Cinnamon Square 2. Apricot Figure 8

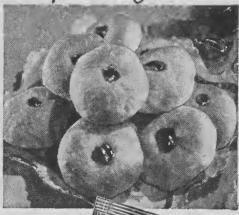




3. Fruit Coil



4. Sugared Velly Buns



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Basic COFFEE CAKE Dough

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Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

1/2 cup lukewarm water 2 teaspaans granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelapes Fleischmann's **Active Dry Yeast**

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk and

4 well-beaten eggs 1 teaspoon vaniila

Sift together twice cups once-sifted bread flaur 1/2 cup granulated sugar 1 tablespoan salt

Cut in finely

3/4 cup butter

Stir about 6 cupfuls into the yeast mixture; beat until smooth and elastic. Work in remaining dry ingredients and

21/3 cups (obaut) once-sifted

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. CINNAMON SQUARE

NEEDS NO

REFRIGERATION

Combine ½ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle on board. Place one portion of dough on sugar mixture and roll into a 12-inch square; fold dough from back to front, then from left to right; repeat this rolling and folding twice, using a little flour on the board, if necessary; seal edges. Place in greased 8-inch square pan; press out to edges. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, ½ cup granulated sugar and ½ tsp. cinnamon; mix in ½ cup broken walnuts and 1 tbsp. milk. Spread over risen dough. Bake at 350°, 30 to 35 mins.

2. APRICOT FIGURE EIGHT

Combine ½ cup brown sugar, 1 tbsp. flour, ¼ tsp. mace and ½ cup finely-chopped nuts. Roll out one portion of dough into a rectangle about 22 by 6 inches. Spread with 2 tbsps. soft butter or margarine; sprinkle with nut mixture. Fold dough lengthwise into 3 layers. Twist dough from end to end; form into figure 8 on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins. Fill crevices of hot figure 8 with thick apricot jam; spread other surfaces with white icing; sprinkle with nuts.

3. FRUIT COIL

Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tsps. grated Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tsps. grated orange rind, ½ cup raisins, ¼ cup chopped nuts and ¼ cup well-drained cut-up red and green maraschino cherries. Roll out dough, using the hands, into a rope about 30 inches long. Beginning in the centre of a greased deep 8-inch round pan, swirl rope loosely around and around to edge of pan. Brush with 2 tbsps. melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with mixture of ¼ cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bakc at 350°, 35 to 40 mins.

4. SUGARED JELLY BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball; roll in melted butter or margarine, then in granulated sugar. Place, well apart, on greased pan; flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled. Form an indentation in the top of each bun by twisting the handle of a knife in the top; fill with jelly. Cover and let rise 15 mins. longer. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.



For an attractive and luscious dessert, serve Pineapple Crown Cheese Cake.

Ways to Use Pineapple

Available in a variety of forms, canned pineapple can be used to good effect in preparing interesting and tasty foods

by PHYLLIS A. THOMSON

PARK interest in late-winter meals with canned pineapple. A satisfying food of high nutritive value, it provides new and interesting flavor treats. Served with ice cream, jellies or fruit salad it adds a delightful piquancy. Combined with other fruits, vegetables, cheese, seafood, chicken and turkey it forms the basis of hearty salads. Canned pineapple contributes a refreshing contrast when served with pork, corned beef, veal or lamb chops.

Canned pineapple is now available in a variety of forms-slices, chunks, tidbits, spears, crushed and juice. Try using tidbits, chunks and spears in salad combinations; pineapple slices with fried or baked ham, or bacon. Crushed pineapple combined with marshmallows and whipped cream makes a fluffy, easily prepared dessert.

The next time you make a steamed pudding, include a cup of drained tidbits or crushed pineapple with the other fruits. Use the syrup of canned pineapple for part or all of the required liquid. Steam the pudding in empty pineapple cans with the tops cut out smoothly. Prepare cans by washing, drying and greasing well, then fill two-thirds full and cover with aluminum foil or dampened parchment paper, tied carefully in place. Steam as recipe directs.

Pineapple Chiffon Pie

I envelope plain 1 tsp. grated gelatin ¼ c. cold water 3 eggs, separated 3/4 c. crushed pineapple not

lemon peel ½ tsp. salt 1 baked 8-inch pie shell

whipped

½ c. heavy cream,

drained 3 T. lemon juice

Add gelatin to cold water and let stand. In a double boiler stir together the egg yolks, ¼ c. sugar, crushed pineapple, lemon peel and juice; cook over hot water, stirring constantly, until smoothly thickened. Add softened gelatin and stir until dissolved. Remove from heat. Add salt to egg whites and beat stiff; gradually beat in remaining ½ c. sugar. Fold in pineapple mixture. Heap into baked pie shell and chill about 3 hours or until set. To serve, spread with whipped cream and a spoonful of crushed pineapple.

Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

In an 8-inch or 9-inch square cake pan about 2 inches deep, melt 3 T. butter. Sprinkle with ¾ c. brown sugar. Over this arrange drained pineapple slices (whole or cut in halves) or chunks in an interesting design. Usually 3 to 6 slices or about 1 to 1½ c. drained chunks or tidbits is sufficient. Decorate with halves of maraschino cherries and/or walnuts or almonds.

Batter for Upside-Down Cake

1½ tsp. baking ½ c. sugar ½ c. shortening powder 1/4 tsp. salt 1 egg 1 tsp. vanilla ½ c. syrup from 1¼ c. sifted cake pineapple flour

Gradually add sugar to shortening, creaming thoroughly with spoon or electric mixer at low speed. Add egg and vanilla and beat until fluffy. Add alternately small amounts of sifted dry ingredients and pineapple syrup, beating smooth after each addition. Drop the thick batter by spoonfuls over pineapplesugar topping in prepared pan and spread evenly. Bake at 350° F., 50 to 60 minutes until done. Let stand in pan 2 or 3 minutes then turn onto plate. Serve warm with whipped cream. Makes 6 large or 9 small servings.

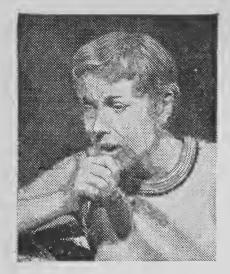
Pineapple Crown Cheese Cake

14 c. fine graham 1 c. sugar cracker crumbs 3 eggs 1 tsp. vanilla 2 T. melted butter pt. sour cream Chilled pineapple 2 T. sugar 2 8-oz pkgs. tidbits

cream cheese

Grease a 9-inch spring form and sprinkle sides with 2 T. of crumbs. Mix remaining crumbs with butter and sugar. Pack firmly into bottom of spring form. Soften cream cheese to room temperature, beat until fluffy. Gradually beat in sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, and beat after each. Fold in vanilla and sour cream (at room temperature). Pour over crumbs in form. Bake in moderately hot oven 375° F., 30 minutes. Turn off heat and leave cake in oven to cool, about 1 hour. Chill.

Red currant jelly



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THE FIRST AID KIT IN A JAR

At serving time, top with a crown of drained pineapple tidbits and dots of currant jelly.

Pineapple Nut Bread

1 c. raisins

purpose flour 1 egg, beaten ½ c. sugar 1 tsp. vanilla 1 tsp. baking 2 T. melted powder shortening ½ tsp. salt 1 c. crushed pine-½ c. walnuts, apple, not coarsely chopdrained

c. sifted all-

1 tsp. soda Sift flour, sugar, baking powder and salt into bowl. Add raisins and nuts. Combine egg, vanilla and shortening; add to mixture. Dissolve soda in pineapple and add. Stir just until blended. Pour into greased 8 by 4 by 4-inch loaf pan and bake at 350° F. about 1 hour or until done. Cool on rack. Serve buttered or

Sweet 'n' Sour Spareribs

spread with cream cheese.

2½ to 3 lbs. pork spareribs Salt and pepper 1 small onion ½ green pepper 1/4 c. celery 2 T. butter

1 T. cornstarch 1 can (2½ c.) crushed pineapple or tidbits 1/4 c. vinegar 1 T. soy sauce

Cut side of spareribs lengthwise into 2 strips. Salt and pepper lightly on both sides, then cut into small servings. Put into 300° F. oven (slow) and roast 1½ hours, stirring and turning pieces. Cook chopped onion, diced green pepper and sliced celery in butter 3 or 4 minutes. Sprinkle with cornstarch, stir well, then add pineapple-syrup and all-and cook, stirring, until slightly thickened and clear. Add vinegar and soy sauce. Drain spareribs again, then pour the hot sauce

Baked Ham with Pineapple

over all; put back into oven for 45

minutes longer, basting occasionally with

sauce in pan. Makes 6 servings.

1 can $(2\frac{1}{2}c.)$ 1" thick slice ham crushed pine-1/2 c. brown sugar

Put ham slice in shallow pan. Drain pineapple; pour the pineapple syrup over and around the ham; bake at 325° F. (slow) I hour. Then spread drained pineapple over ham, sprinkle with brown sugar and bake at 400° F. (hot) 15 to 20 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

Sparkling Punch for a Crowd-Dissolve 3 c. sugar in 3 c. hot water. Cool. Add ³/₄ c. lemon juice and a 48-oz. can pine-apple juice. Chill. At serving time add 3 pints sparkling water. Serve in punch bowl with ice block. Decorate with fresh or frozen strawberries. Makes about a gallon, or 30 to 40 small servings.

Fried Chicken

Continued from page 58

½ hour before serving: make gravy from broth; keep hot. Beat egg yolks with flour, salt and milk; fold in whites. In large skillet, heat lard and butter. Dip chicken meat into batter. Brown on both sides in hot fat about 5 minutes. Serve at once. Makes 6 servings.

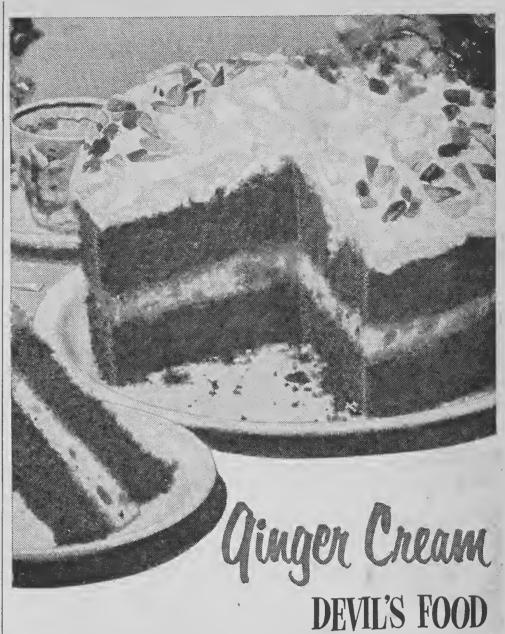
Napa Valley Fried Chicken

3½-4-lh, chicken ½ c water 1 c. flour 1 T. salt Pepper Paprika 1/4 c. butter or bacon drippings 1 c. ketchup

2 T. lemon juice 1 minced medium onion

1 T. Worcestershire sauce T. melted butter 2

1 T. brown sugar Coat chicken with flour and seasonings. In hot melted butter in large skillet, cook chicken until evenly browned. Remove to 2-quart casserole. Start heating oven to 325° F. In saucepan, combine ketchup and next 6 ingredients; bring to boil; pour over chicken. Bake covered 11/4 hours or until tender. Makes 4 servings.



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GINGER-CREAM DEVIL'S FOOD

1/3 cup cocoa 1½ cups fine granulated sugar 11/3 cups milk 2 cups sifted pastry flour or 1 3/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour 3 tsps. Magic Baking Powder 1/2 tsp. baking soda 1/2 tsp. salt 9 tbsps. butter or margarine 2 eggs, well beaten 1½ tsps. vanilla

mixture about a quarter at a time, alter- ing on cake.

, nating with three additions of milk and vanilla and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 40 to 45 minutes. Cover one layer of cold cake with the following Ginger-Cream Filling; let stand about 1/2 hour then cover with second cake. When filling is set, top cake (or cover all over) with whipped cream; sprinkle with toasted sliced almonds and chopped ginger and serve immediately. Or cake may be topped with any desired frosting. GINGER-CREAM FILLING: Scald 11/2 cups Grease two 8-inch round layer-cake pans milk and 2 thsps. cut-up preserved or candied ginger in double boiler. Comand line bottoms with greased paper. bine ¼ cup granulated sugar, 2½ tbsps. Preheat oven to 350° (moderate). Com- corn starch and ¼ tsp. salt; slowly stir bine cocoa and 34 cup of the sugar in a in milk mixture. Pour back into pan and saucepan; gradually blend in \(^2\)_3 cup of cook over boiling water, stirring conthe milk; bring to the boil, stirring until stantly, until smoothly thickened; cover sugar dissolves; cool thoroughly. Sift and cook, stirring occasionally, until no flour, Magic Baking Powder, baking soda raw flavor of starch remains—about 7 and salt together three times. Cream minutes longer. Slowly stir hot mixture butter or margarine; gradually blend in into 1 slightly-beaten egg; return to remaining 3/4 cup sugar. Add well-beaten double boiler and cook over hot water, eggs part at a time, beating well after stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Reeach addition. Stir in cold chocolate move from heat; gradually stir in 1 tbsp. mixture. Combine remaining 2/3 cup milk butter or margarine and 1/4 tsp. vanilla. and vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed Cool this filling thoroughly before spread-



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Fashion Gossip

Notes and comments from spring's advance style shows center on popular features—long slim costume lines—interesting fabric surfaces—lively colors and contrasting accessories

by ANGELA FIELD

THE long, lithe look is the featured silhouette for spring. Styles are slimmer and straighter than ever, yet free-flowing and lissome. The slender look is achieved by a narrower bosom in dresses and suits, by floating panels displayed at sides of dresses and coats and the unfitted or semi-fitted look in a suit.

Although the new silhouette is marked by one continuous line from shoulder to hem, it is nevertheless becomingly feminine and distinctively styled. Women's clothes for spring 1956 are fitted with an easy grace. Shoulders are softer and more natural. The bustline is high and rounded, the hipline slimmer and straighter than the last few years. The waistline is high, fitting the midriff smoothly and gently, but never indented or bulging.

The full-skirted look is still with us in party, late afternoon and summer dresses and for teenager's clothes. Bodices are graciously feminine. Skirt fullness springs either from the hipline or waist.

Pleats are plentiful. Slim-falling pleats and knife pleats on skirts, tailored dresses and suits lie close to the figure emphasizing the new slim line. Newest and most graceful is a circle of pleats falling straight from the hipline. Permanently pleated cottons or synthetics shown in skirts, dresses and sleeves of dresses are still of fashion importance.

A lively new sense of color illuminates the spring's fashion parade. Tones are bold, crisp and exciting. Blue predominates in shades varying from classic navy to dazzling sapphire and brilliant turquoise. Beige tones range from pale honey and bisque to creamy chocolate, coppers and tangerines. Pastels are vibrant in tone with poster pink, butter yellow, periwinkle, baby blue and aqua competing for attention. Vivid reds are important again. To complement the red shades are greens-moss, sea, avocado and emerald. As a balance and a contrast black, and black and white share the spot-

RABRICS this spring are excitingly new and different. There are silks for every occasion; prints for spring and summer dresses, silk suitings, silk blends, surrahs, taffetas, crepes, satins, raw and pure silk. Newest of all are the tweeds of all silk or silk combined with wool or other fiber. Synthetic fabrics are combined more and more frequently with natural fibers or other synthetics.

Whether it be dress, suit or coat, the news is the "linen-like" look. The use of thick and thin yarns, whatever the fiber, creates an interesting surfaced fabric. Linen, rayon, silk and other fibers are used singly or in combination to achieve the linen-like texture. Suit and coat fabrics are lightly textured worsteds with a dry, crisp feel. Also in evidence are soft wools, nubby tweeds and the ever-popular cashmere and camel-hair.

Printed cottons, silks and man-made synthetics are worn around the clock for play, dress and party wear. Geometric patterns, stripes, checks, abstract designs and florals are popular this year. Figured fabrics and the new Oriental-inspired prints vie for top honors.

The long, slender line is in evidence with coats too, in the controlled fullness, narrow bosom and composed soft shoulder. A martingale belt is often used to control the line. There is a feeling of the empire waistline in coats this season. Newest are side pleats extending from shoulder to hemline. Also in evidence is a pert, sprightly coat, flaring from shoulderline to hemline to give back fullness. The woman who wants slenderness along classic lines will find the doublebreasted coat correct and fashionable. Pretty and graceful are the ever-popular fitted princess styles. Feminine in fabric and detail, these coats come in soft pastel shades or bold colored cashmeres, hopsacking and tweeds.

The dressmaker suit is still the most popular. Again the slender look predominates and is expressed primarily in the short, slim jacket. A new note in suits is the "peel" bolero which peels off to reveal a sheath dress or high riding skirt underneath. Skirts are strictly straight and narrow; many have slim knife pleats for walking ease.

The dress and jacket, dress and matching coat or three-piece ensemble are definitely fashion-right this season.



The coat or jacket is straight and slim. Jackets usually feature the new cropped look, falling just below the bustline. Coat and jacket may match, contrast or repeat one of the colors in the printed dress. Many are lined to match the dress, blouse or tie.

Dresses are feminine, gay and fresh as springtime. The slender look predominates but with pretty variations. Belts are frequently built in at the waistline, sheaths are made doublebreasted or a stole is designed to fit easily around the shoulders. Princess, empire styles and long torso lines are still in evidence. Dresses are wearably styled, restrained in detail and with an air of simplicity. Some have large collars that stand away slightly from the neck. Others have a cowl neckline, small pointed collar or tailored touches of white.

HATS may be tall or wide but all have a bulkier look. The beret, cloche, pillbox, breton, sailor silhouette and toque are shown but with a slightly new appearance. Straw berets are designed to hug the back of the head. The bulky toque of felt or straw sits directly on the head while this year's version of the pillbox has a slightly larger brim and is worn tilted alluringly toward the eyebrow.

Hats of light, airy shattered straw, lustrous braids, pliable strawcloth and Milan straw in dark colors or pastels match, contrast or harmonize with your outfit. Newest colors this year are heather and petal pink. Trimmings are used with restraint with grosgrain or velvet ribbon most often seen.

Shoes, bags and belts of shiny black, gunmetal grey or copper-toned patent are worn with suits, coats and summer prints. Leather accessories this year are for the most part boldly colorful. Teal blue, amber, orange, avocado, emerald green and vivid red are some of the many new shades. For dress occasions now and later with summer styles pale ivory and pastel-toned accessories are as pretty as they are fashion-wise.

Narrow, wide and shaped belts are right for any occasion. Patent leather adds a dark, shiny accent, pastel leather belts that match, harmonize or contrast with your outfits add a touch of elegance to a simple cotton or summer casual.

Shoes this year are delicate, fineheeled and more feminine than ever. Unadorned, with a more pointed toe and with "less shoe," the important slender look is achieved. Sandals or vinylite plastic pumps with metal trim are shown for evening. Pumps for daytime wear are slim with closed toe and high, narrow heels.

Long and lean or wide, shallow handbags accessorize many costumes. Others are immense satchels, long channel-types or tote bags of fabric, leather or straw. For dress and eve ning the clutch bag is popular.

Short "shortie" gloves available in washable fabrics are worn with most costumes whether it is a suit, casual, sleeveless afternoon dress, or evening dresses. The ever-popular crushed four or eight-button length gloves may be worn with suits or coats, especially those with a three-quarter length sleeve.

Choice of costume jewelry is almost unlimited: pastel imitation pearls in necklaces, ropes and chokers of single

or double strands, brilliants, rhinestones and multi-colored stones. Strings of beads are popular for the more casual costume. The newest accessory for summer cottons and prints are strands of Italian-imported glass-type beads in 60-inch lengths. Wound around the neck or in several strands, they may be worn in such a way as to add to the long-stemmed look. Pearls, whether cultivated or the less expensive simulated type, are worn with almost any outfit. Gilt chain "bibs" indicative of the Oriental influence are "high style."

Although the slender look predominates the fashion picture this season, there is a wide range of styles to provide a mode for every feminine

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Stitch up little bags of bright scraps of flannelette about two inches square and stuff tightly with the soap mixture. -Laura Roberts Cooke.

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Help Nature To Fight Them Off
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We Take Our



by LINDY FRASER

E'VE always had cats. Until that sad day two years ago when we had to part with Warlock, faithful companion of 18 years and many escapades. Then I agreed with Peter when he said firmly and definitely—"No more cats!" We should have known better.

Call it reincarnation or what you will, but two years from the very day Warlock went to The Happy Hunting Ground, a poor, starved little waif crawled fearfully from under our boathouse, anguished wails pleading for help, experience urging caution as in his desperation he forced himself to come to us. Even then he came on the bias, half of him ready to dart for cover at the first sign of unfriendliness. We didn't need a cat any more than a dog needs two tails, but that cat needed us, and anyway, what could we do-out here in the wilderness, that voice in our ears and winter snarling round the corner?

Half grown, he looked like a good sized cat, but when I picked him up I dropped him again in horror. He felt like something unreal, a thing of no substance, a wraith. After a few weeks of blissful life, in which he ate, bulged, slept and ate again, he emerged a beautiful creature, a sparkling clean coat glistening over lithe muscles, alert, good natured, full of fun, quite the happiest cat in all the world. He has an elaborate white collar exactly like a horse collar, so with a dash of the best Fraser humor we bestowed on him the name of Horace, which suited this enterprising animal from the first, and has become a name of dignity and distinction, though we could have called him Dancer because of his four white legs-the hind ones white so far up they look like tights and emphasize the airy lift to the gait with which he tiptoes through life. At one stroke he had acquired a home, a family and a distinguished name, but fear dies slowly, and Horace will always remain an essentially wild animal, taught in the hardest school of all a sensitivity and an alertness necessary for survival. We do not wish him otherwise, having seen too many instances of the wild creature losing his life because he lost his fear. His domestic instincts Horace keeps for us only; he is terrified of people, particularly children, but he thinks we are wonderful. Such flattery would win the hardest heart.

He shows an equally ready response to discipline or games, which makes training him a delight. A catnip mouse companions many a blatant orgy, a little tinkling bell is kept for certain moods, and with incredible speed, unerring aim and rare grace, in a dreadful din of fierce crashes, wild leaps and skirmishes in ambush he bats his ping pong ball about the house. He hates and abhors the radio—

strange people in his domain—a puzzle he can never figure out. Certain kinds of music he just can't abide—just let Prokofieff on the air for two minutes and with loud dismal wails Horace catapults himself through the back door beyond which lies God's country and the safety of the forest.

It was obvious from the first that he was a gentleman of resources—an enterprising fellow, and by instinct and necessity a mighty hunter. This worried us because since we came to the country to live we have taken great pleasure from feeding the birds and beasties, and we have grown very fond of them as we watch their plucky struggle for survival under the stern laws of the forest.

We enforced on Horace the fact that the feeding table was out of bounds, watched him closely, and tried to herd him away at rabbit suppertime. Came the inevitable evening when I heard one of our little rabbits cry. We knew instantly what had happened. Horace had caught and killed him, and by the time we got out there had dragged him under the back shed! We have petted these rabbits till they are so tame they gallop about at our heels like puppies. We felt as though we had murdered that rabbit. We despised ourselves and hated Horace and were glum and miserable for days. He, only half grown, had killed a grownup rabbit! What would he be like when he was full grown? A real

Some way Horace had won that round, and was back in our affections again—if not in our confidence. I resented him eating our pet rabbit. It was not hunger that drove him to kill.

THINGS went along smoothly for some time. Then one fine day we walked over the lake to the store, and when we came back we found a most excited little cat, obviously trying to tell us of some exploit of which he was extremely proud. He had, indeed, killed another rabbit. We put the rabbits' food away up the trail, hated cat some more, and missed our rabbits. This was repeated at long intervals until the score was four, and by this time we had become fairly philosophical about it-but not happy, though we reminded each other that we had ourselves sworn vengeance on the rabbits for destroying so many of our trees and shrubs.

We didn't think we'd have much success making a platonic bird lover out of Horace, but we thought he had learned to keep away from the birds' table, and relaxed a little. Then came the day Horace's life really hung by a thread. I was typing a manuscript, and for no reason—right in the middle of a sentence—I got up and fairly flew to the kitchen window. There was Horace, tossing a sadly crumpled little

Cats Seriously

We thought that we had steeled our hearts, after the loss of one faithful companion. Along came a starved little waif, whom we named Horace. He is essentially a wild creature and a mighty hunter but with reserves of talent, to win and hold a place in our affections

chickadee like he would a mouse. I raced out and Horace took for cover. It was Tweet, our special pet, one of three chickadees which have been with us each winter since we came to the country.

Sadly I carried poor Tweet up to Peter at the woodpile, and together we mourned our dear, plucky little friend, and reverently buried him. That evening as we sat, we talked of it, our hearts sore. Peter said he had not felt so hurt since the time when, a very small boy, he had lost his little dog. At that time his father was magistrate in the small town in which they lived, and in the pursuance of his legal duties he had to remonstrate with some of the young bloods about town who had become too obstreperous, which they resented. Their revenge was swift. That night Peter's little dog did not come to his call. He could not be found. A troubled small boy went to bed, but not to sleep. In the morning the search began. They found his doghide stretched to a tree down in the lower part of town.

It was easier to forgive Horace for a natural instinct without which he could not have survived before he found us. Horace knew he had sinned. He was disturbed, and has kept far from the birds' table since. To balance the chickadee account he has on more than one occasion killed one of the worst enemies of the birds—the flying squirrel, and to kill only one of them saves the lives of many birds. We are

grateful for his help in keeping down those other depredators, the ground squirrels, and only an idiot mouse would show his nose around here. There is no wantonness in his slaughter—he eats his kill, though he scorns raw meat except on the hoof. He is a discriminating gentleman in all respects, and an epicure of foods as we discovered one night when we were indulging in a snack of Pate de foie gras sandwiches.

HORACE is not always the villain in the plot. One night we worried when he didn't come in answer to our whistle as he always does, so we started out to hunt for him. We found him in a snare which had been set for skunks, a terrified little wild thing again, pathetically glad to see us. Another time we couldn't find him, and after five days had gone by, we gave him up and were very lonely. At four a.m. a pitifully feeble voice wakened me, and once again he needed our help. One hind leg was useless—the ugly marks of a trap plain on it. We hovered over him with sympathy, and fluttered around in our pyjamas preparing a meal for our invalid, who recovered under our min istrations, but that leg will always have a bit of a limp and stiffness.

He's a great big bumbling clumsy oaf at times, but a lovely, friendly, boisterous, handsome, happy, strange and interesting fellow. We laugh at his fool antics and wish he'd been twins, he's so funny.



Ribbon Scarf

This gay, perky ribbon scarf will add a novel touch to a basic suit or dress. Select a flowersprinkled or solid colored ribbon. Make sure the ribbon is stiff so that scarf will have a fresh appearance. Cut ribbon lengthwise into three equal parts. Picot stitches join ribbon pieces and finish the ends. You will require: 1 ball crochet cotton size 30, steel crochet hook No. 11 and 41/2 yards stiff ribbon, 1½ inches wide. Design No. CPC-7236. Price 10 cents.

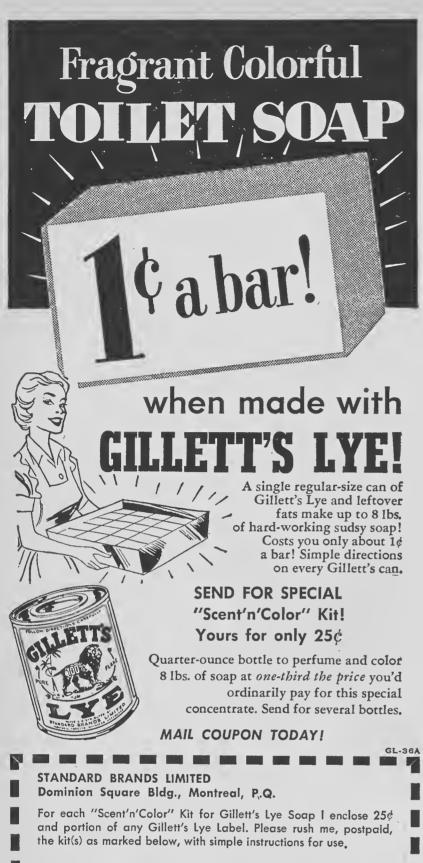
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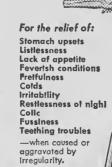
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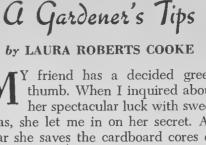
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Y friend has a decided green thumb. When I inquired about her spectacular luck with sweet peas, she let me in on her secret. All year she saves the cardboard cores of wax paper, toilet paper, calendar rolls, bottle guards, etc. In the spring she cuts them into uniform size, about four inches, stands them upright in a shallow flat containing a thin layer of dirt. She fills the rolls nearly full of prepared soil, plants a seed in each one, and puts them in a sunny window. When they have grown sufficiently and the weather permits, she transfers the seedlings, container and all, into her garden. They hardly know they have been moved, she claims. She has the added advantage of being able to place them equidistant in the rows. The container disintegrates through the effect of the moisture in the ground.

When we seeded our lawn the birds seemed to think that we had planned a feast for their benefit. What to do became the question of the hour. Finally I had an idea. I had some cuttings of fur, and an old fur collar and cuff set. I laid these around the lawn, casually shaping them so they looked like cats in repose. It worked! Not a bird came near the lawn. Later on I transferred them to my garden patch to stand guard over the peas and corn. I moved them about from time to time to assist in the camouflage.

Have you tried sticking twigs of jasmine or forsythia (before there is any sign of bloom) in amongst your growing bulbs? With any luck they'll all come out together and look wonderful-especially with daffodils and nar-

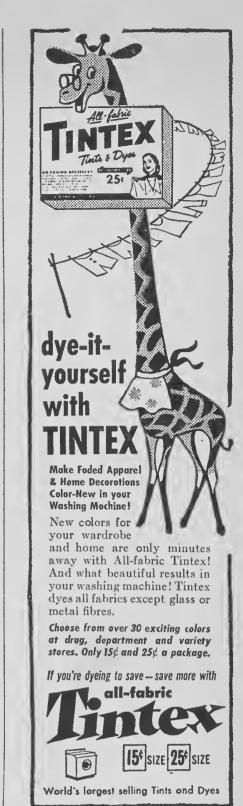
Use an ordinary kitchen apple corer to dig out small weeds. Push it into the ground and through the weed's root. You destroy the weed by uprooting the whole plant after the root is cut. You won't damage nearby plants when you use the corer.

Now is the time to save old cotton hose and other discarded knitted or cotton garments. Cut them into wide strips to use to tie up tomato plants. The soft material stretches easily, and won't bruise stems on contact, and is strong enough to hold the most heavily laden branches.

Blended Flour

AKE up the following mixture, which I call "blended flour," and dip hamburger, ground steak, or pork chops in it before cooking. It will impart a delicious flavor to the meat and will give off an enticing

To one cup sifted all-purpose flour add two teaspoons salt, one teaspoon chili powder, one teaspoon onion powder, one-quarter teaspoon garlic powder, one-quarter teaspoon curry powder, a pinch of black pepper. Sift all together and store in a glass jar .-Laura Roberts Cooke.





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A Light in The Forest

A little of the story of Emily Carr, west coast artist and her constant, lonely search for new and penetrating ways to express her love and understanding of nature, of Indians, their life, outlook, villages and totems and of the landscape about her in its many moods and forms. Her many paintings and sketches left reveal a power and a unique quality which challenges our understanding and appreciation

by DOROTHEA B. VINCENT

HE young woman with a sketch-book under her arm walked slowly between the giant firs. She paused on the shoulder of the hill to gaze at the panorama below her. There, on the fringe of a British Columbia forest, an Indian village glimmered in the sunlight, guarded by tall totem poles, stark and garish, above the cluster of weather-beaten wooden huts.

For weeks she had journeyed from one west coast settlement to another, observing, sketching and making friends with Indians, who were responsive to her keen interest in their life and her appreciation of their native art and crafts. She was now approaching the last village she would visit on this trip. Emerging from the forest shadows, where she had walked with a burning desire to convey to others what she had seen and felt there; the facts as well as the force of the meaning of the truths behind them. Now, in her awareness the quiet woods seemed to have a message for her alone, in a language which she only could understand and perhaps interpret to others. In the village setting she would paint totem poles, canoes, and houses.

She knew that artists from Europe were bewildered by our Canadian scenery and that some said that it cannot be painted. Surely there must be some technique to master this vigorous landscape and to reveal this overwhelming rhythm of nature! "Perhaps in another country," she reflected "—in France I can find the answer to that question and learn to conquer my limitations . . ."

This was a natural and familiar quest for Emily Carr, who had been an adventurous, even rebellious individual since childhood. She was the cighth of nine children, born to Richard and Emily Carr an English couple who settled in Victoria in 1864, where their five youngest children were born. Even as a child their youngest daughter always seemed to

Wood Interior, by Emily Carr. Reproduced by the kind permission of the Emily Carr Trust from Her Paintings and Sketches published by Oxford University Press, Toronto.

be alone with pencil or paints.

be apart from the others, content to

At 12 years of age, both of her parents were dead. Emily still walked alone, intently, almost fiercely, bent on the urge within her, the challenge of a tremendous force of talent, unschooled and unreasonable. At 18, aware of the passion tearing at her mind and heart for expression, she pled with her guardian for permission to go to San Francisco School of Art. "Somewhere, somehow, I will find what I am looking for, a knowledge of art and my own fulfilment," she told him.

Permission was granted, but a watchful eye was kept on her progress during the following five or six years. This seemed one of the most joyous periods of her early life. "That girl from Canada has a vigorous stroke to her brush," was the common comment of her teachers, who quickly became aware of her latent talent emerging under tuition and disciplinc.

In 1895 Emily Carr returned to Victoria. She set up a studio in the loft of an old barn on the family estate and began to teach. In her notes written in her then yet unpublished "Autobiography" at this time, Emily wrote: "The type of work which I brought back from San Francisco was humdrum and unemotional—objects honestly portrayed, nothing more. As yet I had not considered what was underneath surfaces nor had I considered what was inside myself. I was like a

child printing alphabet letters. I had not begun to make words."

She plodded along her lonely, often frustrated way. Her family, friends and other people of Victoria were apathetic toward art. There were no art showings, no contacts with other artists to stimulate or inspire her in work. During the late 1890's she made her first trips as a summer visitor to west coast Indian villages, making notes and sketches. She had set her mind on a trip to England for further art study. Apparently her teaching efforts were successful as they provided the necessary funds for her to travel to London in 1899. But the cramped city and crowds proved disastrous to her health and spirit. She did some travelling, saw interesting places and buildings, important events, the funeral of Queen Victoria and the London crowds at the celebration of the coronation of King Edward. Emily was ill and spent some time in a sanatorium but was reluctant to give up the purpose of her trip.

Emily Carr returned to Victoria in October, 1904, spending eight weeks en route with friends in the Caribou country, gaining health and inspiration from the golden landscapes and the keen air. "My joy is tremendous," she wrote to a friend, "to be back where there is freedom and breathing space." She resumed her art teaching in both Victoria and Vancouver, carrying it on successfully for the next six years. Her pupils trooped after her, into the sunlight, through the woods and along the

waterfront, each carrying an easel and a campstool. They drew from living models instead of from flat copy. They were eager and responsive to her way of teaching art.

She made further trips up the west coast, interested in getting to know and understand Indians and their way of life. A deep respect for their art developed in her mind and she made real friends among them, to some of whom she gave an occasional sketch or painting. She accumulated many scores of notes and sketches, material for use later in her painting and writing.

But the artist soon became dissatisfied with her own lack of mastery of technique and her limitations in ability to express what she wanted to say. Was Canadian scenery unpaintable? Why not go to France, where there was much talk of newer methods of painting. She and her sister Alice set out for Paris in July, 1910, returning home again in November of the following year. She said in her Autobiography: "My seeing had broadened. I was better equipped for teaching and study." In her Journal is a note: "I have learned a new way of seeing. Now I can put true expression into my love of nature."

To that purpose Emily was willing and ready to devote her life, talents and inspiration. She arranged exhibitions of her latest work in Victoria and Vancouver but her new paintings were criticized and disparaged by her family and others who had encouraged



her earlier efforts. The enrollment of pupils in her classes fell off, her canvases, unrecognized and unsought were stacked away. She was forced to undertake other means of raising a livelihood.

She undertook building and managing a four-studio apartment house for rent. The misery of that experience is described in detail in her third book, "House of All Sorts," published 1944. In an attempt to eke out a living, Emily Carr took to the making of hooked rugs and pottery, working in Indian designs. Then she turned to the raising of bob-tailed sheep dogs for sale, selling some 300. From early childhood she had a great affection for animals and birds. This latter enterprise gave her real joy and added to her funds. She continued her visits to Indian villages, extending her wandering and sketching trips along the Skeena River, on the Queen Charlotte Islands and on the mainland coast.

THE glimmer of the dawn of a new day, in Emily Carr's life, came in 1927. Eric Brown, then director of

the National Gallery had been told of her work by Marius Barbeau, who, travelling among the Indians of northern British Columbia in earlier years, had encountered stories of the strange artist woman who visited their villages. He saw some of her work in their houses.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown visited Emily in her studio during the summer of 1927. As a result an Exhibition of West Coast Art was arranged by the National Art Gallery, Ottawa, to which Emily was invited to send some of her paintings, hooked rugs and pottery. The catalogue lists 26 of her pictures on cxhibit, of which the National Gallery of Canada purchased three at the close.

The trip east, as arranged by Eric Brown, offered Emily opportunities to see the work of the Canadian Group of Seven in Toronto and to meet these famous artists. These experiences and contacts were rich and stimulating to the artist who had worked in a lonely isolated studio, using modern techniques to depict light in the forest,

harsh and bleak scenes, symbolic figures, with bold original strokes to convey the grandeur, power and sublimity of nature. Canada was now becoming aware of another "modernist" interpreting what she saw and felt on the Canadian scene. Emily threw herself into her work with new zeal and courage. Three years later she held her first one-man show in Victoria.

Until her death in 1945, Emily Carr painted steadily continuing taking annual trips into the forest and up and down the coast. Weary and impatient with haphazard transportation she bought a van, fitted it up with an oil stove, cooking utensils, a bed and shelves for books. Into this she put her art materials and equipment, two or three dogs, Woo, her pet monkey, Susie the white rat and a few favorite birds and then headed for secret forest places, happy and free from the distractions of civilization.

Ill health frequently curtailed her trips. During these periods of forced physical inactivity, Emily turned to writing, using words with the same skill as she used her brush. A number of books from her writings were published after her death including two autobiographics: "Growing Pains," and "A Little Town and a Little Girl."

Almost all books by her or about her contain a few illustrations of her art, some in color. Outstanding for presentation of illustrations of her paintings and for comment on her life and work is "Emily Carr - Her Paintings and Sketches," published for the National Gallery of Canada and the Art Gallery of Toronto by the Oxford University Press. It contains "A Biographical Sketch" by Ira Dilworth, who wrote the introduction to her first and edited her last book. Lawren Harris, one of the Group of Seven, contributed a chapter on "the Paintings and Drawings of Emily Carr," telling of her place in art, the materials she used; water colors, oils, charcoal and her methods of work.

It has been said that to walk in the British Columbia woods is to feel and know. Emily Carr. She understood them in all their moods and mystery. Through her art, by the vigor of her brush, and the keenness of her vision, we are transposed to those woods. Such was the power of her achievement on canvas. Our appreciation is a fitting memorial, well earned. We may offer, too, our tribute of understanding of what she tried to do; how she studied and toiled to convey a message, in color, form and feeling.

Emily Carr and Books

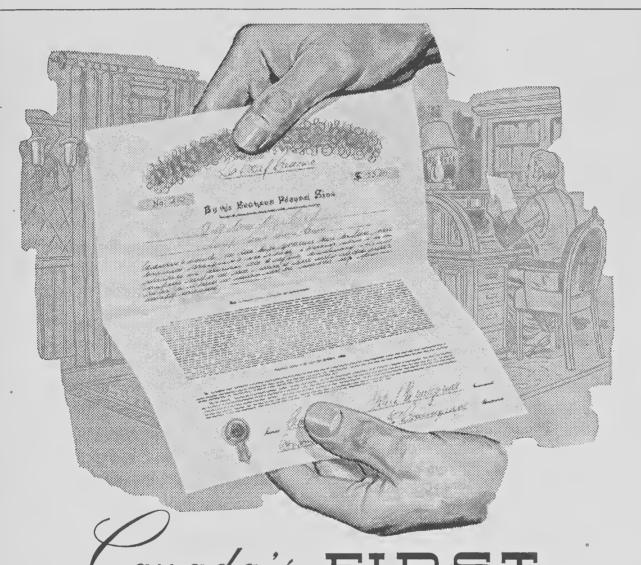
EMILY CARR did not attempt to write until late in life. Her first book was written while she was in hospital. Eric Brown had written a letter encouraging her to set down the story of her life and her struggles. Her doctor had given his permission for her to make an attempt—with the added warning: "But don't get excited and don't overtire." Klee Wyck appeared in book form just prior to Emily's 70th birthday. It won the Governor General's Gold Medal award in the field of general literature for 1941. This and other of her books published by Oxford University Press, with year given, are:

The Book of Small (1942); House of All Sorts (1944); Growing Pains—autobiographical (1946); The Heart of a Peacock (1953), edited by Ira Dilworth, illustrations by author-artist.

Outstanding as an authoritative statement of her place in Canadian art is another from the same publishing house, under the joint sponsorship of The National Gallery of Canada and the Art Gallery of Toronto: Emily Carr – Her Paintings and Sketches (1945).

Clarke Irwin Company, Toronto, published: A Little Town and A Little Girl, autobiographical, by Emily Carr (1951); Pause, A Sketch Book—with illustrations by Emily Carr (1953), and Emily Carr As I Knew Her, by Carol Pearson, a close personal friend (1954).

Emily Carr's style was rambling and casual. The reader does not get a true portrait of the artist, the girl or the woman from one or two of her books. The accompanying illustrations from her sketches and paintings provide telling evidence of her growth in understanding and mastering of technique.



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In Spring Mood

Easter gift ideas to gladden family or friends



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A daintily frilled bedroom ensemble will delight teenage girl's heart. Completely feminine in pastel colored chintz trimmed with patterned ruffles, set is easily made with or without mother's assistance. An ideal way to convert an old dresser or even apple boxes! Materials: 2¾ yards printed chintz, matching sewing thread, preshrunk unbleached muslin, cotton sheet wadding, solid color chintz and 2 yards ¼-inch wide elastic. Design No. SE-2518. Price 10 cents.

Design No. CPC-7306

Be the belle of the Easter Parade wearing this "fashion-right" crocheted cloche and gloves set. Perfect accessories for spring suit or dress, yet can be worn well into the summer months. Make set in crisp white or color and expect many flattering comments. Looped fringe on brim gives soft, flattering touch. Pattern includes instructions for both hat and gloves. You will need 5 balls white or colored cronita cotton and a number 2 steel crochet hook. Design No. CPC-7306. Price 10 cents.

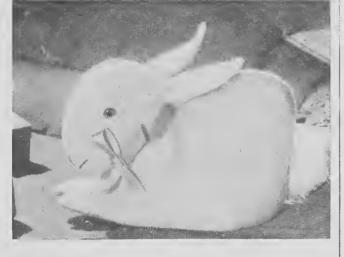


Design No. S-3625

This delicate, reversible revere collar in white or pastel will bring touch of spring to dark dress. Fashioned from filmy voile and edged with matching lace, it is simply made and so very pretty! Pattern, cutting and sewing instructions are included. Materials: ¼ yard voile—36 inches wide, 1¾ yards matching lace—½ inch wide, bias binding and No. 60 or 80 sewing thread. Design No. S-3625. Price 10 cents.

Design No. S-5254

Delight a child on Easter morning with this soft, cuddly Easter bunny. Made from a square of white felt, scraps of pink felt, bunny is completed with a fluffy white wool pom-pom tail. You will require: white felt, pink felt scraps, buttons for eyes, ½ yard kapok, ¼-inch wide ribbon, embroidery cotton, 1 skein



white mending wool and sewing thread. Design No. S-5254. Price 10 ccnts.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.

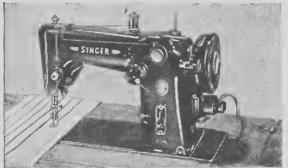


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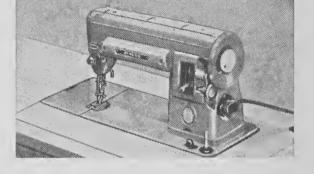


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The Countrywoman

Continued from page 57

target area, to which all people interested in education very definitely and deliberately must raise their sights . . .

If our public is *not* in tune with us, we shall have to fight every step of the way, distrusted, overscrutinized, resisted and financially impoverished. If we already have the taxpayer's support, we want to keep it—keep it alive and keep it growing.

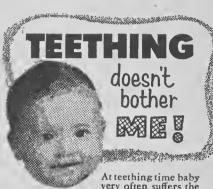
The astounding fact is that our pub-·lic schools have potentially the best possible appeal to intelligent taxpayers. The schools can show immediately how the investment of more money will benefit their children. The sehool dollar is a gilt-edged investment rather than a tax imposition. Everybody benefits. We can show that the deployment and employment of enough dollars will benefit all of society materially in the long run, and sometimes quite quickly. There never was a better investment than the educational dollar but too few people recognize that fact. It is our fault that it is not readily recognized. If we wish people to invest money freely in this enterprise of ours, we simply have to do as other people do. We must descend from the ivory tower, prepare an honest, enthusiastic prospectus, then get out and sell it.

We must put aside any proprietory interest which may have crept into our thinking and we must, without equivocation, accept the responsibility of interpreting education to our public and encouraging the public to work with us. Only by working with us will the taxpayer realize that it is not education but ignorance that is expensive.

The heart of the public and teacher partnership today is the Federation of Home and School Association. With the partnership of teacher, home, school and the church, Mr. McMaster outlined a six-point program which, if carried out, would quickly dispel much of the public apathy toward education:

- (1) Give the public a clear understanding of the purposes of education.
- (2) To promote immediate, informed action on the part of all citizens to meet the crisis in education. There is a crisis. Make no mistake about it and don't let anyone fool you.
- (3) We can work together to see that the developmental and special needs of children, youth and adults are met, and met gencrously, by the school, by the home and by the community.
- (4) We can encourage learning experiences adjusted to the needs of children and of youth in a rapidly changing world.
- (5) We can improve the educational program so that it will more completely meet the needs of the child.
- (6) We can secure the enactment of such legislative measures as will guarantee adequate, secure, financial support for the schools and universities, enabling them to employ highly trained, professionally and personally competent teachers to take care of necessary school construction; to provide an expanded, enriched and challenging curriculum and to place a limitation on the size of classes. V





At teething time baby very often suffers the added discomfort of constipation. Try Steedman's Powders, the standby of mothers for over 100 years, they act safely and effectively as a gentle laxative. FREE BOOKLET: "Hints to Mothers," on request. Write to the distributors; Laurentian Agencies Ltd., Dept. J-11, 429 St. Jean Baptisse St., Montreal.



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"For several years my two boys suffered greatly from asthma and bronehial attacks", says Mrs. A. Lamouroux, 256 Head St. South, Simeoc, Ont. "They would be weak, gasp for breath—choking, wheezing and coughing in a way to wring a mother's heart. I often had to watch my boys sit up nearly all night, unable to lie down because of the struggle for breath. Then I found out about RAZ-MAH. After 3 doses of RAZ-MAH they are relieved and have no attacks for months at a time. I certainly recommend RAZ-MAH."

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The Country



FOW many miles have your feet carried you since you H were born? Thousands of miles! Your feet work willingly year after year for you if you take good care of them-but they grumble and ache when you neglect

How your toes wriggle with delight when they are washed each day! Feet like to be kept fresh and clean. They ask for shoes that have an inch of space beyond the

longest toe and they are happy when wearing loose fitting socks that don't bind them. They want trim nails, too, cut straight across. With such good care your feet. will carry you along for miles. There you go-a regular hiker-balanced squarely on top of your feet, toes pointed straight ahead, stepping out with long, sure steps, arms a-swinging.



Here are two games which are fun for you, your friends and your feet. Marble Toss: Put ten marbles and a box on the floor. Sit on the floor and take off your shoes and socks. See if you can pick up one marble at a time with your toes, and drop it into the box. Give each foot a turn. Toe Writing Contest: You will need two pencils and two pieces of paper. With feet bare, sit down. Grasp the pencil underneath and across the toes (the point of the pencil is just beyond the big toe). Who is first to mark X, the number ann Sankey 1, the number 2? Who is first to write his name?

Joey's March Lion by Mary Grannan

Play fair-give each foot a turn.

THE wind had wakened Joey in the I night. It howled and cried in the chimney, as if begging to come in out of the cold. Joey's answer was to snuggle deeper into his warm blankets, and go to sleep again. In the morning, the wind was still circling the house, twisting and twirling everything in its path. It turned its fury, suddenly, on the garden gate. The gate swung noisily on its creaking hinges, slamming its pickets against the gate post at regular intervals.

Joey's mother called to him. "Joey, will you hurry down, please? I want you to do something for me.'

Joey was laughing when he came into the kitchen. "I know what it is, Mum," he said. "It's the gate, isn't it?"

Mrs. Allen nodded. "Yes," she said. "We don't want it blown from its hinges. I'll give you a piece of cord to make it secure.'

"I think rope would be better, Mum," said Joey. "That wind is really strong."

Joey and his mother went to the basement in search of a piece of rope. They found Joey's lariat. "I'll lend it to Mr. Cate," Joey said, "until the wind goes down. After that, he'll have to look out for himself. The little boy had a difficult time fastening the gate. The wind was in a very mischievous mood, and kept snatching the rope from Joey's hands. Joey enjoyed his struggle with the wind, and made up his mind that after breakfast, he would try running against it.

"You had quite a bad time, Joey," his mother said, when he returned to the kitchen. "I was watching you."

"Yes," said Joey, "but it was fun! I wonder why he's growling so loudly today.'

Mrs. Allen pointed toward the calendar. "It's March," she said. "This is the first of March, and it's coming in like a lion."

Joey looked at his mother sharply. "What do you mean, Mum?" he asked.

"There's an .old saying, that March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb," his mother said. "I don't know about the lamb, yet, but the lion is certainly with us today." She sat down at the table. "I'm hungry, how about you, Joey?"

Joey was more than hungry. He was ravenous. His bout with the wind had increased his appetite. His mother promptly forgot what she said about the March lion. But not Joey! It was! an interesting thought, a lion coming with the wind! He had never seen at lion, but he was sure he would know one if he met one. After breakfast, he said to his mother, "Mum, do you mind if I go lion hunting?"

"What did you say, dear?" said his mother, thinking that she had heard him wrongly.

Joey repeated his question. His mother laughed. "Of course I don't (mind. If you see the lion that brought us this kind of weather, tell him to run away and hide."

Joey shook his head. "Oh no!" he said. "I don't want him to hide. I want to play with him. I may even bring him home, if that's all right with you,

Mrs. Allen laughed merrily. "If you can find the lion of March, I'll make him welcome," she said. She felt quite sure she would never have to keep her promise.

Well bundled up against the wind, Joey set out on his search. It was fun pushing against the driving wind. At the corner, he had all he could do to keep his feet, but he won the battle, and went to the park. If he were a lion, that's where he would go. Bits f of fallen paper and twigs went whirling past him. The trees had weathered the storm, but their branches were bowing in homage to the wind. Joey called out. "Lion, here Lion, Lion."

To his great surprise, an answer came from under the blue spruce tree. "Mieow, mieow."

Joey gasped. He had not expected to find his lion so easily. Cautiously,

Boy and Girl

he went forward. With his mittened hands, he brushed the drifted snow away from the foot of the tree. A tiny yellow striped kitten sat huddled against the trunk of the spruce. Joey's eyes widened. "Are you the March lion that brought all the wind?"

"Yiow, Yiow," said the small one.
- Joey laughed. "You don't look like a lion to me at all, although I've never seen a lion. I know they're a golden color, and you're yellow." He picked up the little animal and stroked it. He sighed. "I just don't understand how such a tiny little lion could bring such a windy March. I'm going to take you home. You must be tired. You've had a busy night."

"Yiow, Yiow," said Joey's lion.

Joey ran for home and burst into the kitchen. "I found him, Mum. I found the lion of March. He was hiding under the blue spruce in the park."

Mrs. Allen looked at the little yellow ball of fur in Joey's arms, and then

at Joey. "Joey Allen," she said. "You know very well that that is a kitten."

Joey's face fell. "He said he was a lion. I asked him. But I guess I did know he was a kitten and just pretended. May I keep my pretend lion, please?"

"If no one claims him, you may keep him," said Mrs. Allen. No one claimed the little yellow kitten, and Joey had him for his own.

The last day of March was calm and beautiful. At breakfast Mrs. Allen said, "March is over. It came in like a lion and is going out like a lamb."

"I know," said Joey. "Leo and I are going to look for him. The lamb, I mean! Mum, if we find him, may I bring him home?"

"No," said Joey's mother firmly. "Knowing you, Master Joey, it might just be that you'd find a lamb, and I'm having no lambs in my kitchen. The 'lion' is enough trouble."

They laughed together. March had been a good month for Joey. V

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 49 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



THERE is nothing more valuable for the animal painter than the habit of constantly making sketches from life and, wherever possible, from animals in action. However, the question usually comes up: How are you going to study wild animals when they disappear as soon as you try to get close?

There is no getting around it—that is one of the drawbacks to painting wildlife. There are many opportunities for study of animal forms that do not require the living animal and one of these we shall discuss here.

The accompanying sketch of the mounted moose head was done while attending a conference at the Waterfowl Research Station at Delta, Manitoba. This is an example of what I mean by taking advantage of opportunities to study animal form. In this case the shape of the head and the neck may not be exactly as they would appear in nature but they are never-

theless very useful for study, and the way the antlers grow out of the skull and their size and proportion in relation to the head are worth your close attention. The antlers of all deer are difficult to draw on account of the many subtle curves and flattenings, but by seizing every chance to study and sketch them from mounted specimens you will find the problems of drawing them from an animal seen in the wild are made much easier.

When you sketch any animal in the woods, try to see it as simply as possible: that is, try to put down its shape with a few comparatively straight lines. They may not be absolutely correct but as in the little sketch at the left, they will help to give you the "feel" of the animal and that is highly important. Incidentally, this drawing was not done with a pen but with a hardwood stick sharpened to a point and dipped in ink.



Crows are cunning! Besides being experienced in the ways of these black rascals you need dependable "Canuck" Shot Shells to make sure they don't get away when you "open up". Sportsmen, farmers and game wardens all over Canada shoot "Canuck" shells. They come in most gauges and shot sizes. In 12 and 16 gauge they have the famous "Pressure-Sealed Crimp"...no top wad to break up your shot pattern.

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Sun Life of Canada Again Increases Policy Dividends

New insurance of \$761 million largest amount ever sold by a Canadian company in any year; $$6\frac{1}{2}$$ billion now in force; Canadian sales up 24%.

Life insurance totalling more than \$761 millions was purchased from the Sun Life of Canada in 1955, the largest amount ever sold by a Canadian company in one year. Sun Life's 85th Annual Report to Policyholders also discloses that life insurance in force now has passed \$61/2 billions, highest in the history of Canadian life insurance companies. The Sun Life has announced a further increase in policyholders' dividend scales for 1956 when \$28 millions will be paid, thereby reducing the cost of insurance to policyholders for the 7th successive year. During 1955 the Company paid \$136 millions in benefits to policyholders and beneficiaries, a new record. Living policyholders alone received over \$94 millions. Total benefits paid since the Company's first policy was issued in 1871 now exceed three billion dollars.

In writing its record total of new life insurance during 1955, Sun Life exceeded its 1954 total by \$65,000,-000. In a year when sales of consumer goods were at an unusually high level and competing activity with sales of life insurance, the fact that an all-time record for life insurance could be established showed that more and more people realize life insurance protection is essential to family security, according to George W. Bourke, Sun Life President, who reviewed Company results for the 12-month period. The Company's Canadian sales of Ordinary insurance were up 24% and increases were also reported from the United States, Great Britain and other countries where Sun Life transacts business.

GROUP UP 42%

Included in total new business was \$244 millions of new Group insurance; Canadian Group sales alone were up 42% over the previous year. Sun Life's worldwide total of insurance in force now has reached \$6,534,-000,000, an increase of 8.2%. Total Group life insurance in force stands at \$2,312,000,000; the Sun Life has on its books one-third of all Group Life coverage now in force in Canada. Sun Life annuities in force provide for payments of \$149,000,000 per annum, 88% of the total being Group pensions. The worldwide figure of life insurance and annuities in force may

be considered the equivalent of \$8,511,000,000 of life insurance. By territory of origin, this business is divided 48% in Canada, 37% in the United States, 13% in Great Britain and other Commonwealth countries, and 2% elsewhere in the world.

LARGE INVESTMENT IN HOME MORTGAGES

During 1955, Sun Life assets increased by \$72 millions and now stand at \$1,948 millions. Once again, mortgages were a principal outlet for new investment funds; during the year the Company placed some \$108 millions in home and other mortgages, bringing the total Sun Life mortgage investment to \$400,000,000. record construction of new homes in recent years has been financed to a great extent out of the premiums paid by policyholders to life insurance companies," Mr. Bourke said. "We provide financial security for the family through the purchase of life insurance and we help as many people as possible to fulfill their natural ambition to become homeowners. The modern type of home mortgage whereby monthly payments are made against interest and principal is a most attractive form of savings for young married people," he added. The Company also made substantial purchases, during the year, of public utility and industrial bonds. "In making these investments we are seeking for our policyholders the highest possible interest return consistent with security of principal," said Mr. Bourke.

The Report revealed that the rate of interest earned by the Sun Life on its assets had shown a further increase during 1955, rising to 4.17%. With the credit policies of monetary authorities in world financial markets halting 1954's downward trend of interest rates, Mr. Bourke was of the opinion that the Company could continue to look forward to interest earnings "at a satisfactory rate" in the months to

A copy of Sun Life's complete 1955 Annual Report, including the President's review of the year, is being sent to each policyholder, or may be obtained from any of 100 of the branch offices of the Company throughout North America.

When Writing to Advertisers Please Mention The Guide



"I Longed for Relief from

Are you suffering from the sharp, stabbing misery of rheumatic pain? Do you long for relief as Mr. William Attwells of 163 Earlsdale Ave., Toronto did? Then listen to his encouraging message: "For over 30 years, my job as a milkman kept me outdoors in all kinds of bad weather. I often suffered from sharp, muscular rheumatic pains in my arms and legs. Sometimes I could hardly lift my arm because of

very severe pain. Fortunately, I learned of T-R-C's and decided to try them. I am thankful to say they gave me quick, satisfactory relief." If you suffer from rheumatic, neuritic or arthritic pain, take Templeton's T-R-C's for quick, effective relief! Ask your druggist for T-R-C's today—only 79¢ and \$1.50.

FREE: Blue Diet Sheet. Write to: Templetons Ltd., 56 Colborne St., Toronto

Old Barn Now Loose Housing

TOHN D. McDOUGALL and his son Ewen, at Ormstown, Quebec, owned one of those huge old dairy barns with short rows of stanchions and single box stalls scattered at unlikely places from one corner of it to the other.

The maze of aisles and pens left dozens of corners in which dust accumulated. Choring was an endless round of walking, instead of working. Meanwhile, labor costs were rising, and the Montreal fluid milk market to which they shipped milk was demanding higher and higher quality.

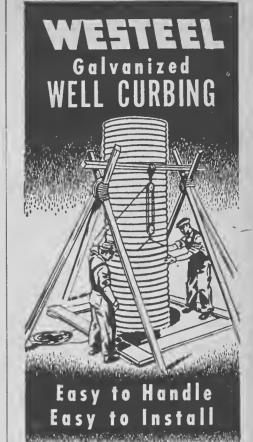
The McDougalls faced a major renovation job, to streamline the obsolete quarters for their purebred Ayrshire herd. Their choice would be between another stanchion barn, or a loose-housing and milking parlor setup. They wanted to reduce the labor required to care for the herd, and to keep the cost of the change-over as low as possible. After considerable thought and study, they finally tore out the inside of the old stable, raised the sturdy old frame from the foundation, and placed the posts on newly poured concrete piers, to give them an inside 11-foot ceiling. They put their three-stall milking parlor at one corner near the milk house. Now, in the third winter with loose housing, they admit that they haven't ironed out all the bugs, but insist that they would hate to go back to stanchion barns again.

CEVERAL advantages are listed in I favor of the new system. Herd health has been at least as good, and probably better than in the stanchion barn. The milk is piped from the cows through pyrex pipes, right to the cooler in the milk house, thus preventing any contamination. Also, one man can now milk their 25 cows easily, without assistance.

The cows are free to move about the 4,000-square-foot barn area, or the outside run, at any time. They are fed grass or corn silage-stored in two upright silos-, from mangers which run along the walls inside the barn. They also get hay, stored in the mow above, from a manger in the fenced-in area outside, or from the mangers in the barn. The barn floor and outside run have both been concreted. Because the McDougalls grow about 45 acres of oats each year, in a five-year rotation on their 200 acres, they have sufficient bedding to keep the cows

The biggest failing of the loosehousing arrangement on this farm was caused by the temperament of the herd. The horns were taken off the Ayrshires before they ever went into the barn, but the cows have been restless, continually moving about instead of eating and resting. The Mc-Dougalls have tried some Holsteins now, and find their temperament more suitable to the situation. They plan, therefore, to change over entirely to the black and whites.

The herd is fed grass silage in the morning, corn silage at night, and hay during the day. The chop, fed in the milking parlor, consists of oats and brewer's grains. Grass silage boosted the protein of the ration, and now the cows can do without oilcake.



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Westeel's snug-fitting "slipjoint" simplifies assembly, lengths are quickly bolted together for easy installing. Elimination of repairs and maintenance means lowest cost. You'll save money with Westeel Well Curbing... the most popular in the West. Ask your dealer or Write DEPT. CG



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Nature's Small Feathered Architects

Among Australia's 700 species of birds only a few are ordinary bird architects who take little pride in their work

by LYN HARRINGTON

RANKIE, an Australian aborigine of 17, was a natural showman. We wanted to see a bower-bird's nest? Certainly he could find one. He did, three in fact. The first nest was a poor affair, deep in a thicket of tangled vines and leaves. The second was better, the third an excellent example.

In each instance, the bower was shaped somewhat like those fancy baskets in which well-groomed lady-gardeners lay their cut flowers. It was open at both ends, but arched inward a t the middle. The floor and approaches were a mosaic of bleached snail shells, bits of white crockery and broken glass.

"That where the bower-bird he camp at night," Frankie told us. "When he lay egg, he cover all top, just little small hole to go in. Clebber, ain't it?" And he looked down with an indulgent smile, as if he had invented it all himself.

Clever it certainly was. The bower-bird is an exciting house builder. We watched a pair in the Auckland zoo one day. The blue-satin male, about the size of a blackbird, bustled around putting up the bower, the female moping off to one side. Then she'd take an interest, pluck out a twig, thrust it in somewhere else. Her scolding mate snatched it out again, put it back where he felt it belonged. Obvisously Ma's remodelling ideas were constantly snubbed.

The bower-bird goes even further as a home architect. Interior decoration is his forte, paint and brush his materials. The brush? Easy enough to chew up a bit of fibrous bark until it's soft. Paint? Saliva mixed with charcoal, or ochre ground up in the beak. Then the bird picks up the "brush," squeezes out some "paint" and smears it on the twigs. From time to time, he stands back to view his work with the critical eye of a master painter.

A USTRALIA has over 700 species of birds, and only a few of them behave in an ordinary birdlike way. Where else will you find a kookaburra, whose incredible laughter faithfully wakens the settler an hour before sunrise? Where else a bird that builds a dancing stage up to 30 feet high, like the lyre bird? Where listen to mimics that out-do the American mocking-bird? And where will you find a more pronounced sense of architecture?

When Frank Lloyd Wright designed the "floating" foundation for a hotel in Japan to overcome earthquake shocks, people thought it something radical. But the honeyeaters of Australia have long based their nests in hammocks slung between two branches, more secure by far than our orioles.

By adopting our birdhouses, wrens have shown enthusiasm for a roof over their heads. But the Australian fantail puts up its own roof. What's more, it provides for runoff by installing a leaf guttertrough. Must feel snug and cosy inside when the rain drums on the roof of such a tiny residence.

Its relative, the tailor-bird, goes a step beyond, by cobbling leaves together for "shiplap" walls. It uses cobweb for the thread, its beak as a needle, and literally sews the leaves together.

Insulation? Why, of course, and nothing like human hair for the job.

Daring honey-eaters will fly up to a total stranger and tweak out a tuft of hair to line their nests. They'll settle for pure wool from a sheep, if necessary, or a few hairs of Fido's coat, or even a thread out of your tweed jacket. But better keep your hat on, unless you want a nest of honey-eaters in your hair.

EVERY house needs lighting at the front door, for identification by night. That's why we're going in for these luminous house numbers nowadays. But it's old stuff to the Gouldian finches of the Australian rain forests. Even at noon, it's dark in those jungles. What's to lighten the scene? Why, the fledglings have small nodules around their beaks which give off an opalescent glow in the darkness.

Pantries are out of style in this age, but cupboards are more essential than ever in today's house plans. The crested bellbird of Australia installs a food locker right at home by storing up dozens of caterpillars in its nest. A stab of the beak paralyzes them, and the bellbird has solved the problem of keeping food fresh, without refrigeration.

Scrub-fowl (mallee hens or brush turkeys) make huge mounds of earth and leaves for incubators. They know how to put the heat on, when and where it's needed. As the vegetation decays, it grows warmer—like a compost heap—so the eggs have constant moist heat, just the thing to bring out the chicks. Luckily, they're independent youngsters, for they never see their parents.

AUTO-LITE TIPS

ON FARM ENGINE MAINTENANCI

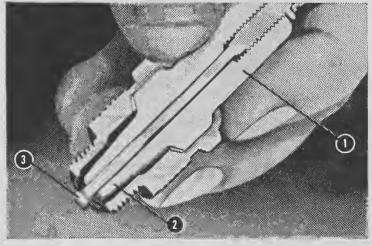
HARD STARTING may be caused by a battery cable too small or corroded at the terminals.

Here's how to test your battery cables for high resistance: Connect a low reading voltmeter to the terminals at each end of the wire being tested. Next, remove the high tension wire from the coil so the engine will not start. Now, turn the engine over. If the reading is above .3 volt, with the starter motor operating, it indicates excessive resistance in the terminal connections or wire being tested.

from over. ting, as or check with the voltmete

Check for loose, dirty or corroded connections. Repeat check with the voltmeter leads attached to the clamps at the ends of the wire. If the reading is still above .3 volt, replace the cable with the Auto-Lite cable specified for your engine.

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Why the Squeeze On Farmers?

Continued from page 9

generally speaking, the high years were 1948 to 1951.

One important reason for the unsatisfactory position of agriculture is that in all countries farm costs have not declined in line with falling farm prices. This is due to full employment and high economic activity in all countries. Farmers buy many of the same products as industry and urban people, and because demand is high from these segments of the economy, farmers have to pay the prices determined by generally prosperous conditions. Moreover, wages of farm help have not declined, because the farmer has to compete with industry for his labor force.

As the pressure of increasing production of world agriculture began to force prices down, most European countries took steps to protect their farmers, by controlling imports, or in some cases, even subsidizing exports. One of the principal reasons often given by these countries for promoting self-sufficiency in agriculture, including some countries in South America and the Far East, is to conserve foreign exchange, especially U.S. and Canadian dollars. They wish to spend their foreign exchange for the importation of capital goods for industrial expansion, rather than for food which they can raise on their own farm lands.

Now let us examine the situation with respect to a few important commodities.

Wheat. World wheat acreage has fully recovered from its war-time decline. Added to this is the fact that in many countries there appears to be a tendency for yields per acre to be a little higher than formerly, due to more efficient methods of production. In the Far East, rice, which is a competitor of wheat for human food, has fully recovered from its war-time slump and is now in ample supply. During the last five years wheat yields have been above normal, due to favorable weather. All these factors have resulted in wheat production far outrunning world demand for the past two or three years. Stocks are very high and prices have only been prevented from falling to disastrous levels by the orderly marketing of the Canadian Wheat Board, and the manner in which the Commodity Credit Corporation in the United States is disposing of its stocks.



"I just don't understand who pays for things like this."

Cattle. Cattle prices in both Canada and the United States have fallen from the extreme heights of 1951, because of nothing more nor less than a large expansion in supplies of beef. This expansion has taken place as a direct result of high cattle prices from 1948 to 1951.

Hogs. Hog prices have fallen because of heavy supplies in both the United States and Canada. Hog production expanded greatly in both countries because of good hog prices in 1953 and 1954, and large feed supplies.

Poultry and Eggs. Poultry and egg prices were relatively good last year, but these good prices, coupled with ample feed supplies at lower prices, will bring expansion in production this year, and lower prices.

Dairy Products. Butter prices have been stabilized the last few years, compared with falling prices for other farm products. Consequently, butter production for two years has been increasing slightly more than consumption. The domestic market has been strong enough to absorb manufactured milk products without serious trouble, and prices have been stable. The same applies to cheese.

Potatoes and Apples. Very large crops, last year, of both these products have resulted in a severe drop in prices in some producing areas. In the Maritime Provinces, prices of these products last fall fell to as low as the cost of harvesting the crop.

TOW it will be gathered from what has been said here, that the main reason for the decline in the level of farm prices in Canada and in other countries has been an expansion of production, which was the direct result of a favorable relationship between prices and costs from about 1947 to 1951. The same causes operated in the United States and in Europe during the same period-in fact, they were world wide. The tendency to overproduce has been aided by favorable weather in many countries. Many countries, as a result of surplus production, are taking active steps to protect their farmers by quota restrictions on imports, and in some cases by subsidizing the export of surpluses.

How long will this overproduction last? What is likely to happen? These are questions in all farmers' minds.

I suspect that what will take place is that the recent fast rate of expansion in world agricultural production will slow down to a halt very soon, possibly even this year. In about two years, or at the most, three years, world population increases will overtake food production. Then, a considerable recovery in world food prices will take place. This recovery will, of course, be uneven, both with respect to products and to countries, but overall recovery will take place. Probably the price of wheat will be one of the last to recover, as wheat stocks are heavy, and it will take a few years to bring them back to normal. Only a serious world-wide depression can prevent a significant recovery in world agriculture, including Canadian agriculture, within the next two or three

(Note: Dr. E. C. Hope is economist for the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, at Ottawa.-ed.)

M.D. Has Modern Machine Shop

Amalgamation of Alberta municipalities brings modernization of machine servicing

by M. M. GRIMSEN

NE of the best municipal road machinery shops in southern Alberta is operated by the Municipal District of Willow Creek, at Claresholm.

It was considered good business for the municipality to have its own shop, because the large municipal machines had to be sent to Calgary and Lethbridge shops for repairs. Local shops weren't large enough to handle them.

The Claresholm shop is the maintenance shop for the whole municipal district. In addition to doing whatever repairs are necessary during the spring, summer and fall seasons, all of the machinery is gone over during the winter months.

The road machinery together with the well-equipped shop represent a sizable investment for the municipality. The shop is valued at about \$20,000 and is fully insured; and the road machinery is valued at \$309,000.

Size of the shop was recently doubled because of the increased size of the old Municipal District of Argyle, due to amalgamation with the M.D. of Bright. Reeve Regis Morkin says, there is twice as much road machinery now in the municipality as there was.

Situated on a plot of four or five acres owned by the municipality on the eastern outskirts of Claresholm, it is proposed to enclose the plot with a teel mesh fence which can be locked, a safeguard any machinery left outside the short

side the shop.

The original shop, size 40 x 80 feet, was built in 1945 at a cost of \$7,000. It has a rounded roof and cement floor and the laminated girders are of wood. The new addition is 50 x 80 feet with a bonded roof and was built in about two and one-half months last winter. Attached to the shop on the north side is a 10 x 20-foot welding shop. The old and new parts of the shop are connected by a large opening, and on the west end of the new shop are large sliding doors 22 feet wide.

The new part of the shop is much better lighted than the old, with many more windows and many more electric lights of stronger power. The building includes roof ventilators in the old part, and ventilator fans are to be installed in the new. Heating is supplied

by gas heaters in the old part, and by two overhead gas fires of 225,000 BTU.

The machinery required for the large municipality is impressive. It includes five track engines, nine No. 12 Caterpillar motor graders, three large pull graders, three elevated graders, five scrapers, four bulldozers, nine V-type snowplows, one small rotary snowblower, a rubber-tired Tournadozer, one P & H track line and back hoe, and a Mack-10 truck. These items are in addition to other miscellaneous equipment such as cook cars and oil wagons.

Machinery storage units are scattered throughout the municipal district at Nanton, Parkland, Stavely, Granum, Fort Macleod, Spring Point and in Division 1. All are constructed of Armco steel but two, one of which is built of cement blocks and the other of wood.

That a major breakdown has never occurred after the machinery leaves the shop in the spring, testifies to the competence of the shop foreman, Winton Thompson, who has been in the shop since it opened in 1945.

Glass Cloches To Beat the Cold

CONTINUING tests at the Experimental Station, Scott, Saskatchewan, show that the use of glass cloches, and other forms of "protected" cultivation, can play a major role in the success of heat-loving crops grown in prairie and eastern farm gardens. However, the degree of success varies a good deal with the type of cover used, and the type of crop grown. To date, nothing has been found to equal the glass cloche, although the results it produces are largely offset by the high cost of the covers themselves.

Because of an unusually hot summer last year, total crop gains of protected plants over unprotected plants didn't show up markedly at the end of the season, but the covered plants did yield more heavily in the first two pickings. In any normal year, this initial boost enjoyed by protected plants can be expected to carry



The old shop, with rounded roof, is shown in front, and the more modern addition, which followed the creation of a municipal district, complements it.



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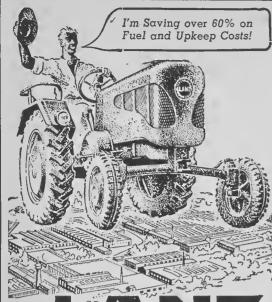


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through for the whole season. Cucumbers grown under glass cloches, or protected by asphalt building paper (tar paper is toxic to plants) and plastic Hotents, showed much better results for the first two pickings, than check plants with no covering at all. Of the two types of covers used, glass cloches gave by far the best yields. Similarly, in a test using Early Chatham tomatoes and muskmelons, the glass cloche was the only one to give any ripe fruit, the paper-Hotent combination performing only slightly better than no cover in these two cases.

One reason for the superiority of the glass cloche is that each one is actually a greenhouse in miniature, with a ventilation system all its own. Because of this feature, cloches can be left over the plants all summer, while Hotents and Hotkaps must be removed as soon as possible so the plant can get a chance to breathe. Too, when soil and air temperatures were taken, they were found to be much higher under the glass.

Other glass forms used, such as clear gallon jugs with their bottoms removed, were also a decided improvement over the paper and Hotents, but still not as effective as the cloches. But, if used during the cool conditions generally found in an average June, the bottles were found to give the vegetables a head start, which stood the plants in good stead throughout the whole season. The aim of the Station now is to discover some cover which will give the same high results as the glass cloches at a much lower

The cloches consist of sheets of glass, fitted to a framework of special wire, which, at the present time, must be imported from England. Costs for both wire and glass run about \$1.00 a foot, or \$2.00 for each two-foot (normal size) cloche used-enough to give heart failure to any farm housewife trying to cut down expenses with a home garden. This spring, Scott horticulturists will experiment with a new-type plastic covering.—C.V.F. V

Applying the Hybrid Hog Idea

This Ontario farmer uses the Swedish Landrace, Hampshire and Yorkshire breeds

\ALL in at the Sid Smith farm, Teeswater, Ontario, during the summer, and you'll pass by a dozen or more sows pasturing on a heavy growth of rye and rape next to the road. The chances are that you won't recognize the breed. Go into the yard and see 75 weanling pigs running together in an outside pen. You probably won't remember having seen pigs like these before, either.

Actually, there aren't too many like them in the country. They are good, and the sows have a surprising smoothness of side and trimness about the shoulders, along with sufficient bone. But the ears are flopped and the backs a little too straight to be Yorkshires. Nevertheless, the pigs are white and so are the weanlings thrifty, vigorous pigs that look lean, but have a flop ear and a little more bone than Yorkshires, but all white.

The pigs are planned that way. Sid Smith worked for Warwick Seed Farm

at Chatham before he started on his own at Teeswater. While with the Company, he began crossing different breeds or strains of pigs. Now, he has brought some of the sows produced from this work to his own farm and is carrying on the work.

The sows in the front field are sired by American Landrace boars, and ar out of either Hampshire or Yorkshire

Another strain was introduced to produce the weanlings from these sows. They are sired by a Swedish Landrace boar; and he plans to breed these gilts back to good Yorkshires to produce market hogs. (For this method, see The Country Guide, December, 1955, page 9.—ed.)

It is early yet to give the final answer on this system of producing pigs. But those 76 pigs in the pen, at about ten weeks old, came from only seven sows. Such performance augurs well for hybrid hogs.



In this group are the pigs from seven litters, all smooth-sided, trim, flopeared—and white. Sid Smith knows that they pay off at the market place.



Straw buncher on the Gordon Quennell farm, Shaunavon, Sask., is home-made and used after harvest for gathering straw for his 60 head of cattle.

Home-Made Straw Buncher

Necessity and ingenuity combine to produce laborsaving equipment which cuts costs on this farm

THIS home-made straw buncher on the Gordon Quennell farm at Shaunavon, Saskatchewan, enables him to save his straw for use as feed, or as bedding for his cattle. Once his crop is harvested, Mr. Quennell takes his stacker to the grain fields and puts up the straw for the winter.

The wooden box, mounted on a car axle, measures 6 by 8 by 7 feet high. Straw falls from the combine to a canvas elevator (the canvas from the

combine fits this) which carries it to the box. The back of the box, hinged at the top, and the floor, hinged at the front, work from the same lever. The lever is controlled from the tractor seat permitting the operator to drop the floor and swing out the back to discharge the straw.

This buncher fits ideally into the Quennell farming program, for along with 1,100 cultivated acres, the farm carries about 60 head of cattle, as well as a few sows.

He Left, But Came Back

Bud Pals wouldn't trade farming now as a challenging and rewarding occupation and a way of living

Alberta, away from the farm to a salary job. He was soon back home again, however, and has become one of the most enthusiastic and thoughtful farmers in his area. In fact, his place, as it was his dad's before him, is an illustration station, operated in association with the Federal Experimental Farms Service.

He has five quarter-sections in the dark-brown soil zone. Fertility remains high, but he still claims that he couldn't farm without cattle. Eighty acres are given over to a forage crop rotation, and yield well over 100 tons of hay each year. A mixture of brome grass, crested wheatgrass and alfalfa is left down for four years, plowed in the fall, and seeded to barley or oats the following spring. The next year it is again seeded down, with oats as a nurse crop. Mr. Pals insists that, acre for acre, the hay land pays the best. It means more revenue for less work. He calls grain farming a rich man's hobby.

When The Country Guide visited the farm it was carrying a herd of 45 grade Herefords, which were to be increased to 60. Now that he has more hay and grain than he can presently use, the livestock will be increased in another way also. He decided not to finish his calves in the fall, and wintered them through, instead. He will increase farm revenue by finishing them as yearlings the next winter.

Hay and pasture safeguard much of his land, but erosion is a matter of constant concern on the grain fields. Consequently, Bud is turning more to his heavy-duty cultivator for tillage, often using chisel teeth to go deeper into the soil.

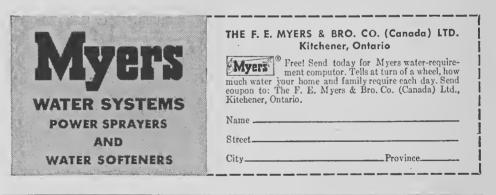
There is little spare time around the Pals farm, because a flock of 200 laying hens claim some choretime during the year. He boosts profits here, by bringing the pullets to production when most prairie flocks have been shipped to market and when replacement pullets are still going on range. He purchases chicks at the end of February and has the pullets laying by August.

He now has a 20 by 32-foot laying house built of plywood, at a total cost of \$684 for materials, including a concrete foundation and floor. It is a quonset-styled structure, with a flat front 6' 6" high, facing south, which carries the windows. He made his own arches for the building, out of 1" x 4"



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RHEUMATIC PAIN



lumber, which he split. The house is lined and covered by five-eighthsinch plywood, and is insulated with rock wool.

The hens are a year-round enterprise, but seasonal chores are found in the garden. He has an ideal tree-sheltered enclosure, in which he grows gooseberries, currants, raspberries and apples. Each spring he sets out early flowers and vegetables in a cold frame on the south side of the house, by which he stretches the all-too-short gardening season into an additional few weeks.

All in all, Bud Pals says that he wouldn't trade farming for any job right now, as a challenging and rewarding way to make a living; and as a place to raise his two girls and his little son, it has no peer.

Tobacco-A High-Cost Crop

TOBACCO has a special significance in eastern Canada's agricultural picture, especially in areas once less prosperous because of sandy soil. This crop has transformed some of these areas, such as Norfolk county in southern Ontario, from among the less prosperous to the most prosperous counties in the province.

During the past 25 years, tobacco has become one of the high acre-value crops on Canada's farms.

Klaas Barendregt, who, with his sons, operates five tobacco farms in Elgin County, is one of those who has cashed in on this intensive but capricious crop. Tobacco is a rewarding crop when well grown, but requires a high degree of skill.

For example, this big man with the quiet manner, still chuckles when he recalls the novice from a new district, who ordered a couple of bushels of tobacco seed-from a seed house.

"In reality," he points out, "I seed two ounces of seed in the greenhouse, and this will plant 40 acres of tobacco."

Mr. Barendregt mixes seed with crushed corn, so he can seed it thinly and evenly in the steam-sterilized soil of his 160-foot greenhouse, in early April. By fall he hopes to harvest 1,200 to 1,400 pounds of cured tobacco leaf to the acre. This will be worth close to 50 cents a pound.

There are, however, both high overhead and high cash costs on a tobacco farm. For instance, he requires six flue-curing kilns on his home farm, and these cost about \$2,000 each to build and equip. Hand labor for weeding and later for picking the leaves, adds to the costs. The cured leaf, sorted, graded and tied into "hands," must then be stored in the packhouse until winter, when it will be tied into bales for delivery to the manufacturer.



Klaas Barendregt holds a "stick" of tobacco, in store for winter delivery.

This Flock Repays The Special Care It Gets

Its owner maintains that good poultry management is mostly common sense and experience

RS. L. G. NOBLE runs a 500-bird flock of White Plymouth Rocks 15 miles west of Eastend, in southwest Saskatchewan. In return for the special kind of care she expended on her birds, the flock has given her a remarkable performance in the laying pens and on the meat block during the past 20 years.

For example, not a single bird from her flock has reacted to a blood test. Last year, hatchability was 76 per cent. Even her cockerels have won special attention over the years, for townfolk make regular treks to her place, to pick them up for Sunday dinners or even week-day meals.

Mrs. Noble insists that most of her secrets of rearing birds are simply common sense practices. Her only gauge for them is "Do they work?"

Even during the years when there was an unlimited market for wheat at a good price, she stayed with poultry. Wheat fields, or short grass prairie for grazing beef cattle, stretch for miles around the Noble farm, but she has been raising poultry for 20 years, and was honored at the Saskatchewan jubilee celebrations last year, for her

unbroken record during that time, for shipping hatching eggs.

Cleanliness is another fetish with this smiling, talkative woman. For instance, though she can't boast a shining set of new buildings, she gets along nicely with the old ones. When her pullets are ready for the laying pens in fall, the hens are sold. The pens are then thoroughly cleaned out. Next, she puts formaldehyde in the laying pens, sets it burning, and closes up the building for a few days. By then, every crack and crevice will be penetrated by the poison fumes, the house can be aired out, whitewashed, and the vigorous pullets will be ready to go to work.

Even on summer pasture, she uses meticulous care to keep the growing birds free from disease. Fresh water is kept before them all the time. Pastures are changed every year or two.

Because Mrs. Noble buys mixed chicks each spring, she has cockerels each fall to fatten and sell. And with the same eye to quality that has brought her prizes for her cockerels at the fairs, she begins feeding a few at a time. Here she presses some milk into

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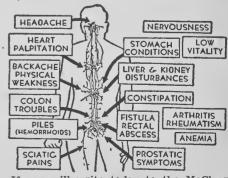
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service from the dairy herd, feeding milk chop to about 20 birds at a time, so some will be ready each week.

With a dairy herd on the farm for ream production, a little more milk is available during the winter. The flock benefits from this, too, and the hens get a laying mash covered with milk each morning. She admits that it keeps them in high flesh, maybe even a bit too fat- but she gives them as much as they will clean up, so they will be hungry for the mixed grains that are fed later, then for the super

green pellets at noon, and for the mixed grains fed at night in a trough. This keeps the birds healthy and puts high hatchability into the eggs.

A few other details round up the management program. For instance, she cleans out the pens regularly, refusing to go to deep litter, which has been utilized in so many prairie hen houses of recent years. And to maintain the high quality of the eggs, she gathers several times a day, taking them right to the cellar in summer, to keep them cool and fresh.

Roofed Bunker Silo Does Fine Job

Silage is thrown directly into feed alley and both waste and labor are saved



Here is the roofed, concrete bunker silo that Maurice McKee built against

is barn. It saves labor, was not costly, and spoilage has been very little.

THEN Maurice McKee wanted a silo to store grass on his farm at Millbank, north of Stratford, Ontario, he went to Teeswater to see a concrete surface silo already in use. It impressed him as a permanent, but inexpensive, silo to build, and one that would be easy to fill, and allow little spoilage or waste. He returned home to plan one of his own.

Since it was to be built with a low, removable roof for winter protection, he located his silo with one end against the cow stable. He knocked a hole in the stable so he could throw he silage directly into the feed alley in front of the cows and save extra handling. A sliding door provided sufficient insulation between silo and stable. After using the silo for a year, he is thoroughly pleased with it.

Since the barn was banked, the silo had to be partly dug into a side-hill. Here are its dimensions. It is 48 feet long, 14 feet wide at the bottom and 17 feet at the top. One wall is eight feet high and the other 11, while the concrete walls are tapered from 18inch thickness at the bottom to six at the top. Scantlings are bolted along the top of each wall, and the roof, built in four sections of frame, sheathed with aluminum, is bolted onto the scantlings after the silo has been filled and thoroughly packed.

At silo-filling time, the first loads are dumped over the wall at the end of the silo. When the silage has built up inside, a tractor can be driven in, and from then on, every load is packed. Mr. McKee has found freezing and spoilage almost non-existent

in his silo. Because the silo is built against the stable, he can look to the future, and see the possibility of turning the stable into a loafing barn, and putting a self-feeder on the silo.

Performance Testing Likely

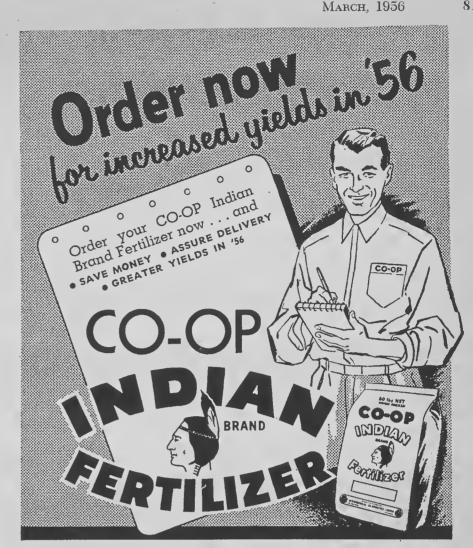
NTARIO'S Advanced Registry Policy for beef cattle, which has provided a progeny test for 33 Ontario beef bulls to date, may be changed to a performance test.

W. P. Watson, Livestock Commissioner, told the Ontario Cattle Breeders' Association recently that results of the work to date indicate that such a change might make the test more useful, and that the Advanced Registry Board was considering such a change.

Mr. Watson said that rate of gain is a highly heritable factor, and that economy of gain is closely associated with it. On the other hand, quality of carcass is only about 20 per cent heritable. It is possible to improve a herd rapidly by breeding for rate of

"Beef cattle breeders must pay more and more attention to performance testing. Most of our commercial producers are asking for efficiency in their steers, not for fine breed points."

In the progeny tests conducted to date, the 33 bulls made scores ranging from 1.8 to 3.0 pounds of gain per day. Fourteen of the bulls scored above the average here, and 13 of these required less feed per pound of gain than the average.



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Farm Unity

It would be too much to expect that all farmers in Canada, or even in a single province, should think alike. It has never happened yet, and will not happen while farmers retain their human qualities, of which the most outstanding is the ability to think. Under these circumstances, therefore, it is likewise too much to expect that farm organizations will be able to completely harmonize their thinking.

A notable example of the inability, or unwillingness, of farm organizations to agree, occurred recently in the United States, where a Senate Committee was examining the current proposal sponsored by the Democratic majorities in the Congress, to revert to 90 per cent fixed price supports for basic farm products,

Leaders of three U.S. farm organizations, the 1,600,000-member American Farm Bureau Federation, the older, but smaller National Grange, and the still smaller National Farmers' Union, met again in mid-February where their respective presidents spoke before the National Farm Institute held at Des Moines, Iowa. The Farm Bureau favors the flexible price supports endorsed by President Eisenhower and Secretary Benson. The Farmers' Union favors a guarantee to the farmer of 100 per cent of parity, and the Grange favors a two-price systemdomestic and export, as well as commodity-by-commodity approach to government action. Said Herschel D. Newsom, Master of the National Grange: "We not only can't agree, but we couldn't even all meet together at the request of the chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

We know about such differences in Canada, too. However, a new and very pleasant, as well as harmonious note was struck not long ago, at the annual meeting of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, when that meeting was addressed by the recently elected president of the Farmers' Union of Alberta, Mr. Arnold W. Platt. The F.U.A. has representation on the board of directors of the A.F.A., but harmony has not always been the outstanding characteristic of the relationship. Mr. Platt is by training a scientist-a plant geneticist, or breeder-and in recent years has been manager of a grain-growing syndicate in southern Alberta. He thus brings to the F.U.A. a new kind of experience and a fresh point of view. From his remarks before the Federation we have selected three paragraphs which, conveying the spirit of what he said, seem to be a worthwhile contribution to the idea of farm unity.

"The greatest contribution a man can make to society," he said, "is having an idea. From the mind of man has come the concepts of an organized society, of law and order, of systems of government, all aimed at the ultimate ideal of freedom of the individual and the nation from economic want and fear of aggression. I think you would all admit that we are desperately short of ideas today. I think you will also admit, at least after a moment's reflection, that the best place to obtain such ideas is among farm people. Here is a proud, freedom-loving people, with a deep compassion for their fellowmen, whose daily work is done in an atmosphere conducive to thought and meditation. Farming is more than raising wheat, cattle and hogs-it is also raising scientists, statesmen, and humanitarians. Farm organization is more than floor prices and freight rates; it is a great forum of people uniquely endowed to give more than their share to humanity.

"Since we all think differently, the job of any organization is to weld the thinking of its members into an over-all program, so that action can be taken. In our concept of organization we say that each member has an equal voice, and that the majority rules. This is a practical sort of scheme that allows us to get along and take group action on

our problems. There are two things we should keep in mind at all times. Firstly, you do not achieve unity by majority rule, but only by education and persuasion. You do not necessarily convince a man that he is wrong, by outvoting him. Secondly, we as individuals must realize that if our organization is to succeed and make progress, we must accept the principle of majority rule, at least on most issues. We farm people are too prone to feel that 'if you won't do it my way, then I'm getting out.' Sound and lasting organizations will not be built on that basis.

"I would ask other members of the Federation in the interests of agriculture and of unity, to be tolerant of us in The Farmers' Union, to keep your minds open, and to encourage us to think boldly and imaginatively about the problems that face us. I would ask you to go along with us whenever you can—stretch a point if possible—because we do represent a large cross-section of farm opinion. If you can't agree with us on some point, ignore it if you can. If you feel it is too important to ignore, let us disagree privately at first; and if it must be public, let it be with as much good grace and understanding as possible."

The Worth of History

"HISTORY," said a famous automobile maker many years ago, "is bunk." He is himself a part of history now, and the industrial empire which he founded has itself made more history than its founder ever dreamed of.

History is all around us, in what we did or thought yesterday, in the clothes we wear, and the food we eat. It is in the seed we sow, in the implements we use, the livestock we feed, and in the way we feed them. If it were not so, the buffalo would still be roaming the great plains, and in eastern Canada the one-time fierce Iroquois Indians would still be scalping and burning the white intruders into the New World. The historian J. N. Larned puts it more pleasantly. "Most of the science which we value so in these days," he says, "has come to us in the train of all history, out of the past; and poetry, too, has come with it, and music, and the great laws of righteousness, without which we could be little better than the beasts. How vast an estate it is that we come into as intellectual heirs of all the watchers, and searchers and thinkers and singers of the generations that are dead. What a heritage of stored wealth!"

Last month, in Winnipeg, the Western Canadian Society for Horticulture paid tribute to those who, in the early days of settlement on the prairies, helped to bring beauty and comfort and serenity and utility to living in the new country which they had chosen for themselves. These pioneers, whether as individual farmers working independently to find fruits, trees, shrubs and flowers hardy enough to survive in a rigorous climate, or whether as early workers on experimental stations, or at newly born universities, were making history. The beauty of shelterbelts, the introduction of the fruits and flowers they found, or produced by selection and breeding, come to us today as gifts from the past. In other parts of Canada, where commercial fruit growing is more practicable, few indeed of the older varieties are still growing. History has been at work there also, and lessons have been learned: the experience of those who have gone before is now our heritage, as our experience will be part of the heritage of those who come after us.

The Low-Income Farm

A GRICULTURE is beset by many disabilities. One of these is the relatively low labor income of farm operators. Labor income is the amount of money annually remaining to the farmer for living, family welfare and saving, after all farm expenses and costs, including depreciation, interest on the capital invested, and an allowance for unpaid family labor, have been deducted from the total of cash farm income and income in kind. The problem of low average labor incomes in agriculture is not confined to Canada, but the relative amount of deficiency within the industry depends, of course, on the general standard of living achieved by the

country concerned. Our Canadian standard of living is very high relative to most other countries, and it is within this concept that Canadian farm labor incomes must be considered.

Within agriculture there are an unusually large number of chronically low-income farms, quite apart from the off-farm worker with his home on a farm, or the average farmer who experiences an occasional crop failure. The typically low-income farm is often too small to provide even a modest standard of living for the farm family, but it may also suffer from under-capitalization, poor management, or submarginal soil. Whatever the causes, they combine to produce low incomes for far too many farm families, both in eastern and western Canada. Primarily, of course, responsibility rests with the individuals concerned, but in its public aspects, responsibility lies with provincial governments, and we are not aware of any provincial government which has attempted to isolate and study this particular problem, with a view to inaugurating a program especially designed to meet the needs of these chronically ill farm businesses.

It will no doubt surprise many readers to know that in the United States, where a similar problem is now being studied, there are an estimated 1.3 million farms (one in four) in this category, on which average income is less than \$1,000 per year. This, in the words of True D. Morse, Undersecretary of Agriculture at Washington, means "few and obsolete machines, rundown buildings, poor health, and perhaps most important, inadequate training and education for the children." We in Canada also believe in health and education and constructive citizenship. Why, then, should we not study this very special problem?

About Democracy

DURING recent weeks we have received a very small number of letters—three, to be exact—, which were highly critical of an article which appeared in The Country Guide on the Canadian. Wheat Board, an issue or two ago. We had expected more, and doubtless there were others which similarly. At least two of the letters were excellent: they were thoughtful, restrained, and sincere. They had, in common, the idea that any monopolitic control of the sale of a farmer's wheat—or other product—is morally and legally wrong, unjust and oppressive.

What concerned us was not so much that they failed to agree with us, or we with them, but that even as letters were exchanged, history failed to stand still and wait for us to find out whether we could settle our differences. Therein, we suspect, lies the kernel of the matter.

Any large group of human beings represents a mass of widely differing opinion. Also, democracy in action is a concentration of vigorous social and political forces. Seldom are all members of a group completely satisfied with what the group does, as a whole. Nevertheless, any member is still free to think as he will, within a broad, but none too clearly prescribed framework of freedom.

The views and attitudes of a democratic group are seldom the same on any day, as on the day before. Attitudes change, but members of the group are always free to try, if they will, to live yesterday over again today. Similarly, they may reach out for experiences that the future alone—which may beckon, but may never speak—, can assure to us.

Thus, no single individual or government is of itself ever responsible for any large-scale changes in the attitudes of a democracy. Events compel changes, and people and governments adjust themselves to them. Equally, no individual, organization, or government is solely responsible for the Cana dian Wheat Board as we have it today. It is, in effect, a circumstance created by the aftermath of war. Time alone will tell whether it is actually a flowering of experience and destined to endure, as many are inclined to believe, or whether it is a sport from the tree of history, which time may cause to wither and die. Meanwhile, except for those who yearn to live yesterday over again, it seems to the many most affected by its operations, to be something solid, secure, and meaningfulworth holding to in periods of uncertainty.